



GEORGE R.

GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of God, King of *Great-Britain, France and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting: Whereas Our Trusty and Well-beloved CHRISTIAN COLE, Esq; formerly Resident at *Venice*, hath humbly represented unto Us, that he hath with great Labour and Expence compiled a Work for the Press, Intituled, "Memoirs of Affairs of State, containing Letters, written by Ministers employed in Foreign Negotiations, from the Year One Thousand six Hundred Ninety-Seven, to the latter end of the Year One Thousand seven Hundred and Eight, with Treaties, Memorials, and other Transactions mentioned in the said Letters, Published by himself"; and hath humbly besought Us to grant him Our Royal Privilege and Licence for the sole Printing and Publishing thereof, for the Term of Fourteen Years: We being willing to give all due Encouragement to Works of this nature, are Graciously pleased to condescend to his Request; And We do therefore by these Presents, as far as may be agreeable to the Statute in that Behalf made and provided, grant unto him the said CHRISTIAN COLE, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, Our Licence for the sole Printing and Publishing the said Work, intituled, "Memoirs of Affairs of State, containing Letters written by Ministers employed in Foreign Negotiations, from the Year One Thousand six Hundred Ninety-seven, to the latter end of the Year One Thousand seven Hundred and Eight, with Treaties, Memorials, and other Transactions mentioned in the said Letters," for the Term of Fourteen Years, to be computed from the Date hereof: Strictly forbidding all Our Subjects, within our Kingdoms and Dominions, to reprint or abridge the same, either in the like, or any other Volume or Volumes whatsoever, or to import, buy, vend, utter or distribute any Copies thereof, reprinted beyond the Seas, during the aforesaid Term of Fourteen Years, without the Consent or Approbation of the said CHRISTIAN COLE, his Heirs, Executors and Assigns, under their Hands and Seals first had and obtained, as they will answer the contrary at their Perils: whereof the Commissioners and other Officers of Our Customs, and the Master, Warden, and Company of Stationers are to take notice, that due Obedience be rendered to Our Pleasure herein declared. Given at our Court at *St. James's* the 22d Day of *January*, 1737, in the Sixth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

HARRINGTON.

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MEMOIRS

OF

AFFAIRS OF STATE:

CONTAINING

LETTERS,

WRITTEN BY

MINISTERS employed in
Foreign Negotiations,

From the YEAR 1697, to the latter End of 1708.

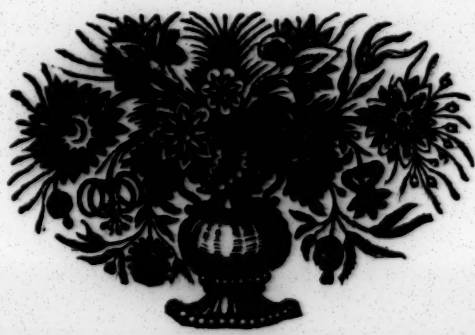
WITH

TREATIES, MEMORIALS, and other TRANSACTIONS,
mentioned in the said LETTERS.

Published by

CHRISTIAN COLE, Esq;

Some time RESIDENT at VENICE.



L O N D O N :

Printed for the EDITOR;

By HENRY WOODFALL, at *Elzevir's-Head* without *Temple-Bar*.

M.DCC.XXXIII.





TO THE
K I N G.

S I R,

PERMIT me to lay at Your Majesty's feet a Book, which may want the Sanction of Your Royal Name, to support and recommend it. For tho' it is written with the strictest Regard to Truth, and the Letters, contain'd in it, will sufficiently speak for themselves; yet the Introduction to the whole Work, and the Connexion and Remarks occasionally interspers'd, may appear to be cast in too rough a Mold for the Polite Taste of the present Age.

THE Subject heretreated of, is a course of Negotiations of a very Faithful Minister at many Foreign Courts, in most of which I had the Honour to be very near him, and was thence recommended to the Royal Protection and Fa-

your ; of which I have continually done, and shall always do my best Endeavour to deserve the Continuance. For, as my Attachment to Your most August House has ever been uncontestable, firm and zealous, and this present Access to Your Royal Presence gives me hope, that it is not unknown to Your Majesty: so I bring this Offering with the more boldness, because it not only relates great Actions, and the Springs of them, many of which have been hitherto hid ; but it refers to that particular Time, in which the GREAT ASSERTOR of that *British* Liberty, which Your Majesty most Gloriously maintains and improves, open'd the way to the Happy Succession of Your Royal Family to the Throne of these Kingdoms.

WHICH that You and Your Posterity may fill 'till Time itself shall be no more, is the ardent and daily Prayer of

YOUR MAJESTY'S

Most Humble,

Most Obedient,

and Most Dutiful

Subject and Servant,

Christian Cole.



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- * Her Royal Highness the PRINCESS-ROYAL.
- * Her Royal Highness the Princess EMILIA.
- * Her Royal Highness the Princess CAROLINA.

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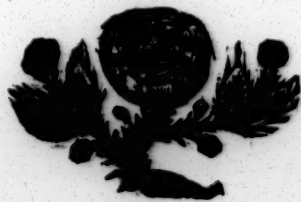
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T H E

INTRODUCTION.



THE Intention of all that read is to divert and improve themselves, so no Books have answered those Purposes better than such as contain true Histories of what has passed in former times; and therefore no Writers have deserved more of the Publick, than those who have given us plain, true, and faithful Accounts of those Transactions, in which they were themselves employed, and of which they had a certain Knowledge. Such Books have always been preferred by the Judicious to those *French* Memoirs, which give us accounts of the Amours and Feats of private Men, and of Ladies, and ought to be looked upon as a kind of Romances; though such Memoirs are indeed more capable of being adorned with agreeable Narrations, and even surprising Events: which, as they generally flow rather from the warm Imagination of the Writer, than from the desire of informing the Readers of the real Matter of fact, can, at best, serve only for an Amusement, but give no true Satisfaction, nor afford any proper Instruction to those who are desirous of improving their Minds by their reading. It were to be wished, that Ministers of State, Admirals, Generals, and others who have the Conduct of Grand Affairs, would leave to their Posterity some authentick Memoirs, out of which those, who are Masters of Style and Method, might gather and compile true Histories of what has passed before their time, and on which they might make such Remarks as would be useful, instructing, and diverting to all Readers; but more particularly to Princes and Ministers of State, in the following Ages, by shewing them, as in a Glass, all that has happen'd, and what ought to be imitated, and what Steps should be avoided.

Most Writers of Histories have been unprovided with such Materials, and were obliged to gather their accounts of things past, out of News-Papers, Mercuries, and such like doubtful Relations, and afterwards the one from the other: for which reason we can have but little Dependance on what they have written. We can have no true Satisfaction in reading such Works, nor make any true Judgement nor Inferences, which can be founded only on

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the real Causes and Springs of Actions, or by comparing these with the Events. *Rushworth's* Collections, the Memoirs of Sir *Ralph Winwood* and other Great Men, lately published by *Edmund Sawyer*, Esq; and other such sort of Memoirs of our own Countrymen; the Memoirs and Letters of Mons. *D'Estrade*; and the famous Collection of State-Tracts, relating to the Affairs of the United Provinces, collected and published by their own Countryman Mr. *Aitzema*, have therefore met with so kind a Reception; as those of Sir *Thomas Roe*, which are going to be printed, will probably do. The foregoing Considerations have prompted me to make and publish this Collection of Letters and other Papers of Consequence, during a total Recess from Business, and whilst I had a great deal of leisure-time, which I thought I could not employ better than in this manner.

It will perhaps be objected by some, That the Times, of which I give an account, are yet too fresh in People's Memories, and that some who acted then in high Stations are yet alive, &c. But I hope this will appear to be no Objection at all, when the Reader shall consider, that the nearer the Times are, the more they concern us, and the more they are therefore worth our notice; and all I pretend to, is to relate the plain true Matters of fact, in order of time, without Observation, or Reflection, leaving every thing of that kind to the Judgment of my Readers. So that there will be no room for Partiality to Persons, or the Influence of Party-Resentments, which are the great Objections against those Accounts of things, which have been written at, or near the times, in which they were transacted, and by Persons concerned in them; though they must have had the greatest advantages by their Knowledge of the real truth, and so long as they keep to bare Narrations, supported by authentick Memorials, they cannot but deserve the highest regard, and will ever be the only sure Guides for those who come after them. The Times I here treat of were very Critical, and of which divers Authors of different Parties, and of several Nations, have wrote very differently. The Partition-Treaty was made, and broke, and the Reader will by these Papers be enabled to judge of the true Aims of the several Powers engaged in that very remarkable Negotiation, and which produced such extraordinary Effects. The King of *Spain* died, and a Will was produced, and accepted by the *French* King, and supported by his Arms. The Abdicated King died at *St. Germain's*, and the Pretended Prince of *Wales* took the Title of King of *England, Scotland, and Ireland*; and he was publickly owned, and supported in it by *France*, which caused the Orders to the Earl of *Manchester* to leave *Paris* without taking his Leave of the Court. The Grand Alliance was formed soon after this, and a War ensued, full of extraordinary Events, and Actions were performed, which equal any of those of the Antients: Till at last, by as extraordinary Accidents, the Kingdom of *Spain*, for the rescuing of which out of the hands of the House of *Bourbon*, so much Blood and Treasure had been expended, was, after many great and signal Victories obtained against that Family, given to it, when it was almost conquered. The great Duke of *Marlborough* was, after all his Victories and Triumphs, disgraced; and the Duke of *Ormond* was sent to publish, on a sudden, a Cessation of Arms, which broke the Grand Alliance, and defeated all the Councils of our Allies, and the Projects formed for a great Campaign. This gave new Life and Vigour, and even Victory, to the dejected House of *Bourbon*. *England* was soon after reduced to send some of its principal Ministers into *France*, to sue for a much worse Peace than *France* had ever yet offered; after she had, but a few Months before, been in a condition to give Laws to her Enemies, and settle such a Ballance of Power in *Europe*, for the Security of it, as she pleased. We were soon after threatened by *France*, and, immediately upon the Protestant Succession's taking place, the Popish Pretender landed in *Scotland*, out of *French* Shipping; that Nation menaced us with Destruction, and We were in such danger from our new Friends,

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Friends, that We were forced to send to *Holland* for a number of their Troops, with the help of which, We saved ourselves from that Enterprize, in which several Noblemen and Gentlemen of these Kingdoms, and even some who call themselves Protestants, were engaged.

The Reader will see, by many of the Letters from *Paris*, how restless the Popish Party was in King *William's* Reign, and how diligent in the pursuit of our Destruction; and he will then be more and more convinced of the Necessity there was for obliging the *French* King to break all the *Irish* Officers and Soldiers in his Pay, which is now a constant Nursery of Guards for the Pretender.

I have printed nothing but what I know to be true, and in which the late Duke of *Manchester* or myself were employed; or what I have copied with my own hand, out of the Original Letters, and other Authentick Papers. I have made the Work as concise as was proper, by retrenching such Letters and other Papers as seemed to me to be unnecessary; though many of those that are printed will perhaps seem to be such to the Reader at first sight, and 'till he reads on; when they will appear to be of use, for the connection and better understanding of the whole. I have myself translated all that was wrote in *Latin, Italian, French, German, Spanish* and *Low-Dutch*, and having made no use of any other hand, I can assure the Reader that I have kept very close to the Sense, and as close to the Words, that are in the Originals, as the Idioms and Phrases of the different Languages would give me leave.

As I give an account of Times, in which great Revolutions and Wars happen'd in *Moscovy, Poland, Sweden, Denmark, &c.* so I have now and then gone a little out of the way, by inserting some Letters, and other Papers relating to the Affairs of those Countries, though neither the late Duke of *Manchester* nor myself were directly employed in them: But those were likewise copied by myself out of the Original Letters and Papers, which were sent by the *British* and other Ministers residing at those Courts: so that in this also I do not give my own, but their Accounts.

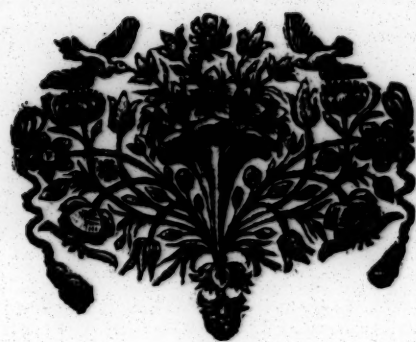
I begin with a very short Relation of what happened during the late Duke of *Manchester's* first Embassy to *Venice* in the Year 1697, though I was not then with him, but with the Earl of *Pembroke* at the *Hague* and *Ryswick*. I did this, partly to introduce a short Account of that Government, which is not very commonly known, and very different from that of any other Country, and particularly their Manner of treating with Foreign Ministers. The next Embassy I give a very particular account of, is that to the Court of *France*, which began in the Year 1699, and ended with the Death of the late King *James*: And the last was in those remarkable Years of 1707 and 1708, when the aforementioned Duke was sent to *Vienna, Turin, Venice, &c.*

I intended to have added what happened in *Europe* during the several Years I resided at *Venice*, in the Reigns of the late Queen *Anne* and King *George* the First, of glorious Memory: But I must either have made that very imperfect, or swell'd this Work to a very great size; and so many that were then employed are alive, and Parties were so warm, that I thought it better to desist, and go on with it at my leisure; and either print it some Years hence, if God spares my Life, or leave it to my Heirs to dispose of as they shall think proper.

I have intirely avoided the giving Characters of Persons; for, besides that this is at the best but an invidious Undertaking, to draw them with that

xii The INTRODUCTION.

Exactness the Truth demands, requires a more intricate Knowledge of Persons than almost any Writers have had Opportunity for. And I am satisfied that the liberty which some have taken in this respect, has often given the World meer Pictures of their own Imaginations, and sometimes the Misrepresentations of Passion and Prejudice. 'Tis the Actions of Men, rather than their Characters, the Publick is concerned in; and of these we may have a certain Knowledge, when a great deal of the other is nothing but Conjecture.



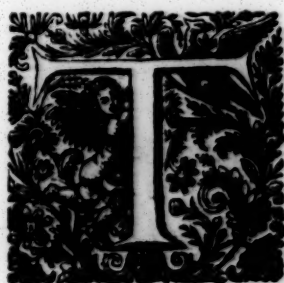
MEMOIRS



MEMOIRS

O F

Affairs of State.



THE Republic of *Venice* was the last of the considerable Powers in *Europe*, not engaged in the War against us, since the Revolution, that would acknowledge King *William*. After Admiral *Russel* had appeared with a great Fleet in the *Mediterranean Sea*, and when the Republic saw a general Peace could not be far off, they sent a solemn Embassy to *London*. His Majesty, resolving to return their Compliment by an Extraordinary Ambassador, appointed the Right Honourable *Charles Earl of Manchester* for that Service. His Lordship had always appeared zealous in the Cause of Liberty, and had at his own Expence accompanied the King, as a Voluntier, with a very handsome Retinue, into *Ireland*; and was in the Engagements at the Battle of the *Boyne*, at the Siege of *Lymerick*, &c. and after the Reduction of *Ireland*, he was made Captain of the Band of Yeomen of the Guards. The Reasons, and the Intent of this Embassy, are explained in the Instructions, which were worded as follows.

WILLIAM R.

Instructions to Our Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin, Charles Earl of Manchester, whom We have appointed Our Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republic of Venice. Given at our Court at Kensington, the 23^d Day of April, 1697, in the ninth year of Our Reign.

THE Republic of *Venice* having sent a solemn Embassy to Us, to congratulate Our Accession to the Crown, We have thought fit to return their Compliment, and to employ you for this purpose. You shall therefore, after having received these Our Instructions, with Our Letters of Credence, repair with all convenient Expedition to *Venice*; and being arrived there, you shall, as soon as you can be ready for it, demand an Audience of the College in Our Name; at which having delivered our said Credentials, you shall acquaint them, That the Expression of their Friendship in sending the said Embassy, was very acceptable to Us, and that we shall on all occasions be ready to demonstrate the great Regard and Consideration We

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have

have for their Republick, and to do whatever may tend to the maintaining and improving a strict Friendship, and good Correspondence between Us and the Republick, and Our and Their Respective Subjects and Dominions.

You shall at your Audience, and all other publick Occasions, take particular care to maintain the Dignity of our Character, and that you be received and treated with the same Honours and Respects, as have been at any time shewed to the Ambassadors Extraordinary of Our Royal Predecessors, or those sent to the Republick from *Spain, France*, or other Crowned Heads.

You shall, during your stay there, carefully maintain a good Correspondence with the Ministers of all Princes and States now in Amity and Alliance with Us; and You shall endeavour to penetrate into any Leagues or Negotiations that may be carrying on between the Republick, and any other Prince or State, and into all other Matters and Transactions of State, which may be fit for Us to know, and give us a particular Account thereof.

Whereas it has been the Practice of divers years for Ambassadors, not to give the Hand in their own Houses to Envoys, as was particularly directed by an Order of Council in the Reign of our Royal Uncle King *Charles* the Second, bearing Date the 26th of *August*, 1678. You are to observe the said Order, and govern yourself accordingly.

You shall in Our Name make such Application as shall be necessary to maintain and preserve Our Subjects, trading to, or in the Dominions and Territories of the Republick, in all such Privileges and Immunities as they have hitherto enjoy'd, and to remove and redress all such Difficulties and Grievances, which they have just reason to complain of; some particulars whereof you will be acquainted with by a Copy of a Memorial, (delivered to you with these Our Instructions) which by Our Order was put into the hands of the *Venetian* Ambassadors sent to Us: And the Article concerning such *English* Seamen, and other Our Subjects, as are detained as Slaves in their Gallies, you are especially to take notice of, as being so contrary to the Friendship and good Correspondence between Us and the Republick; and you shall endeavour by all means to procure the Liberty of such as are now in their Gallies, and that such Orders be given, that the like may not happen for the future.

You shall observe from time to time such further Instructions and Directions as you shall receive from Us, or one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, to whom you shall give constant Accounts of your Proceedings during this your Embassy.

W. R.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, August 12, 1697.

I Did not omit to lay before the King your Lordship's desire to have a Secretary of the Embassy, to go with you to *Venice*; and by the last Post I received an Answer from Mr. *Blaithwayt*, that his Majesty has been pleased to agree to it; and I have accordingly given directions for Mr. *Stanyan's* Privy-Seal to be prepared, whom I understand from Mr. *Montague*, your Lordship has pitch'd upon for this Employment. *I am, &c.*

SHREWSBURY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Grafton, 20 Sept. 1697.

I Have nothing to return in answer to your Lordship's, but my sincere Wishes for your good Journey, and Success in whatever you undertake. If his Majesty has any particular Instructions for you, I suppose you will receive them from himself when you attend upon him.

Mr.

Affairs of STATE.

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Mr. *Blaitbwayt* made answer to what I writ about Mr. *Meeras*, that His Majesty would take no resolution till his return, the matter requiring no haste.

Besides the good fortune as a Publick Minister, I wish you the private *bonnes Fortunes* of a young Man, and that you may receive as much Happiness as you will give. I shall, as Secretary, expect no particular Accounts of your Transactions of this nature, but in general I shall be glad to hear you are pleased, as being, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Loo, 18 Sept. 1697.

I Have received with a great deal of pleasure the Letter you have honoured me with, and I thank you with all imaginable gratitude for the goodness you have in taking part in the favours the King has shewn me. I have spoke to the King about the business you mention as to a Secretary of the Embassy, upon which he answered me that it was reasonable, and that he had sent Orders about it to the Duke of *Shrewsbury* that this may be granted you. I hope to have the honour to see you here before your departure, &c.

ALBEMARLE.

Tho. Cantuar.
Sunderland.
Romney.
Orford.

By the Lords Justices:
His Majesty's Additional Instructions for the Right Honourable Charles Earl of Manchester, His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republick of Venice. At the Court at Whitehall, the 21st Day of September, 1697. In the ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

THERE being divers Complaints made by his Majesty's Subjects of the ill Treatment they have received from the Commanders of the Ships belonging to the Republick of *Venice*; and it having particularly been represented to His Majesty, that the *Trumbull* and *Cloudesty* Galleys did in *October* last, by Virtue of the Commissions they had from His Majesty's Commissioners of the Admiralty, take a *French* Vessel near the Coast of *Napoli di Romania*, on board of which they found a Bag of 797 Chekines, which Money was afterwards claimed by the Captain-General of the *Venetian* Fleet, and upon the Refusal of the Commanders of the *Trumbull* and *Cloudesty* Galleys to deliver the same, as being taken on board an Enemy, the said Captain-General sent out some of his Galleys, who violently seized upon, and carried away the said Prize with the *English* Seamen on board her; and had not the *Cloudesty* and *Trumbull* Galleys been too nimble for them, the design was to have taken them likewise. An *English* Ship called the *Revenge*, which cruised about the Entry of the *Arches*, going into one of the *Venetian* Ports, near *Napoli di Romania*, was immediately ordered to put off to Sea again, and being necessitated to enter into another of the *Venetian* Ports to water, she had Guards put on board, and before she had repaired her damages, was forced out again, and a *French* Vessel was armed out to follow her; by which she was taken, and towed by the said *French* Vessel into the Port of *Napoli di Romania*, where she was laid by the Stern of the Captain-General. Several Complaints have likewise come of late from *Smyrna* of the hard usage of the *Venetians* to such Vessels as have been sent from thence to the Islands in the *Arches* with *English* Passes, whilst the *French* under the same

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Circumstances are treated with all Civility and Kindness. We have thereupon thought fit to direct you, in his Majesty's Name, to represent to the Republick of *Venice*, how much his Majesty is concerned at this unjust and unequal Behaviour of their Commanders, to his Majesty's Subjects, and to demand Satisfaction and Reparation for the Injuries and Damages they have sustained, as well in the case of the *French Prize*, and the *Revenge* above-mentioned, of which you will be more fully informed by the Parties concerned, as in any others, which his Majesty's Subjects have just cause to complain of. And that his Majesty expects the Republick will give such Orders to their Commanders, that his Majesty's Subjects may not have the like cause of Complaint for the future, but may be treated in the several Ports of the *Venetian* Dominions, as becomes the Friendship and good Correspondence between his Majesty and the Republick. It being also represented to us by *Thomas Rider* Esq; that his Father Sir *William Rider*, during his abode at *Venice*, did lend Twenty Thousand Ducats to the Bank there several Years ago, some part whereof has been since paid; but there yet remains a considerable Arrear which stands postponed in the Books of the said Bank: You are hereby directed to interpose in his Majesty's Name with the said State, in order to procure that justice be done the said *Rider*, by discharging the said Debt, which has been so long delayed upon groundless Pretences.

By their Excellencies Command,
JA. VERNON.

Tho. Cantuar.
Sunderland.
Romney.
Orford.

By the Lords Justices:
His Majesty's additional Instructions for the Right Honourable Charles Earl of Manchester, his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republick of Venice. At the Court at Whitehall the 28th Day of September 1697, in the Ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign.

AT your Arrival at *Venice* you shall inform yourself, what Proceedings have been made in a Cause depending there, between *Francis Godolphin* Esq; and *Elizabeth* his Sister, Wife to *Charles Godolphin*, on one part, and the Testamentaries of the late Sir *William Godolphin*, viz. Those who pretend to have been authorised to make a Will for him after his Death, on the other part; concerning so much of the Estate of the said Sir *William Godolphin*, as is remaining in the Bank of *Venice*, amounting to the Sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds sterling; a state of which Case will be deliver'd to you. And it is His Majesty's Pleasure, that you advise and consider what may be the properest means how to procure Justice to be done to the said *Francis* and *Elizabeth Godolphin*, and that the Laws of *England* in the disposal of *Englishmen's* Estates to the next of their Kindred, may be consider'd at *Venice*, so as not to give way to a modern Practice in *Spain*, that may allow of posthumous Wills, contrary to the Constitutions in all other Places; which the Subjects of *England* ought not to be liable to for any Estate, belonging to them, that is not within the *Spanish* Jurisdiction. You are therefore by all proper ways to support and maintain the said Cause, and interpose your Endeavours, that it be brought to a speedy and equitable Determination, so that the said Subjects of His Majesty be not deprived of their just Claims and Pretensions to the Estate in question.

By their Excellencies Command,
JA. VERNON.

Affairs of STATE.

5

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 19. 1697.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letter, and am likewise to acknowledge your favour by your Steward. I have given my Lord Duke an account of your Lordship's safe Arrival in *Holland*. I was very much afraid, considering what Weather it was, that you would not have had so good a Passage. I shall not trouble your Excellency with our News at present, since we are wholly taken up with what we receive from you, and the proclaiming of the Peace. You may expect a large share of it, when you are got beyond the Court.

My Lord *Portland* arrived late this Evening, having landed yesterday at *Orford*. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Cologne, Nov. 7. 1697.

I Had no opportunity, 'till now, of acquainting your Grace of my Proceedings, since I took my leave of His Majesty, which was on the Day the King kept St. *Hubert*, which he intended to do as formerly; and the Ceremony of the great Horn was to be observed, which I was willing enough to avoid.

I desired to know of His Majesty, if He had any further Instructions than what I received of your Grace. He said, he suppos'd I was acquainted with some Complaints, and that the *Venetians* did not use His Subjects well. I shall take all the Care I can, and cannot but imagine that now the Peace is sign'd, it will be their Interest to oblige the King. I did also make my request concerning Mr. *Meeres*, which the King was pleased to grant, and gave me leave to give your Grace an account of it. When He arrives in *England*, He will sign the Warrant. I am very sensible of your Favour in this matter. I intend to go to-morrow towards *Frankfort*. It is said that the Cardinal *Fuſtenberg* is expected soon here, where he will pass the rest of his time; others believe he has some other Design on foot. I have nothing worth giving your Grace any further trouble, and am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Whitehall, 12 Nov. 1697.

I Am very sorry that I missed having the Honour of seeing you when you passed at the *Hague*. I am reduced to make use of Paper to assure you of the Continuation of my Services, and to wish you all sort of Prosperity in your long Journey. Mine will be much shorter and less troublesome. I believe you found my Son much grown. I wish he may in time make himself worthy of your Kindness and Friendship, and that he may follow the steps of his Father, and be as truly as I am, &c.

PORTLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, 26 Nov. 1697.

I Would not trouble your Excellency oftner than I think there is a plausible occasion for it: but I ought not to omit acquainting you, that my Lord Duke is upon the point of returning into the Country again. He has

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staid longer here than was proper for one in his Condition, who spits Blood, and constantly finds a great Oppression on his Lungs in the Night, which obliges him at this time of the Year to throw open the Windows for a little Breath. He has done what he could to leave the Town and his Employment together, since neither of them agree with his Health. But his Majesty not liking he should part with the Seals 'till he has an offer of something else, obliged him to hold the Office, tho' he dispenses with the Execution of it this Winter, and accordingly he thinks of going out of Town on Monday next. There will be left here a Company of useless Tools, when the Master-Workman is gone. All the Office will serve for, is to have a Convenience in it for sending your Excellency some Parliament-News, and I wish it may be such as you will like. Some have already employed their Pens in writing a Pamphlet against a Standing Army, as not in the least to be born by a free People. They would allow nothing to be kept on foot, but your Excellency's Yeomen of the Guards, and a Country-Militia under new Regulations, such as would not leave us either a Soldier or a Ploughman in *England*, but some awkward Creature between both. Yet I suppose this Opinion will be strongly supported, but I hope the Reasons of Safety may be the most prevalent.

We do not go on with disbanding the ten Regiments, as was once or twice thought of, but we are turning it into a Reform, by keeping up the Officers, and reducing the Number of Men, which many are well enough disposed to, provided the People they must pay are of their own Nation. Our Purfes will not hold out to maintain all, and to give any preference to Strangers appears to some of very hard Digestion.

The King has had a spice of the Gout this Week, or something very like it, having had a pain in his Knee with a Swelling, but it is now pretty well over. It is the only Distemper he can have that will not disturb us.

The Earl of *Jersey* was sworn yesterday of the Privy Council. My Lord *Portland* talks of going on his Embassy within a Month. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Augsburgh, Novem. 30, 1697. N.S.

I Did not receive the favour of your Grace's of *October* the 23d, 'till I came to this Place. I find the Prince of *Baden* intends to stay here this Winter. I thought it convenient to wait on him, who would have receiv'd me as an Ambassador, but I declined it, by reason of some points of Ceremony I must have insisted on, which I do not know whether he would have granted. He does not seem satisfy'd with the Peace, and I suppose on several Accounts: for the Expence he is at is such, that I do not see how he will be able to live, when he has not the Command he formerly had.

In my way to *Frankfort*, I passed by *Nurembergh*, where the Magistrates waited on me in form, and did express great Honour for his Majesty; and I find they are sensible that the reason the Circles and themselves have not better Terms, was occasioned by the Emperor. They do not expect much Benefit by this Peace, since they are obliged to maintain the same Force now, as in time of War, as long as the *French* have those Places on the *Rhine*.

I design to go to-morrow by Post to *Venice*, and have sent my Equipage before, being willing to be out of the cold as soon as possible, there being now nothing but Snow. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

Affairs of STATE.

7

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Dec. 20. 1697.

THE last I troubled your Grace with, was of the 30th of *November* from *Augsburgh*, having had no other Opportunity 'till my Arrival here, which was on the 14th of this instant. I have found some Difficulty in getting such a House as would be honourable and convenient, having to treat with Nobles. And tho' I come up to their Price, which is very extravagant, yet they are long before they will come to a Regulation; so that I fear it will be near ten Days before I can go into it. In the mean time I am at the Consul's, who is very serviceable to me. He has at last deliver'd his Commission in the form he had long contested for, and I suppose they were willing to make that step before my Arrival. I have discoursed with the Merchants in relation to their Trade, and am informing myself concerning the Usage of our Seamen, and shall take particular care to follow my Instructions. As soon as I get to my House, I intend to notify my Arrival to the Republick, and shall not delay demanding an Audience, as soon as I can get ready for it. The *French* Consul has brought me a Compliment from the *French* Ambassador, which I have also returned. It is not proper to proceed any farther 'till I am settled and have given notice of my Arrival to the Republick, and then I shall act as is usual upon those Occasions, unless your Grace shall think fit to send me other Directions. I understand the *Spanish* Ambassador has inquired also whether I am come; but as I am *incognito* now, he has not yet taken any notice. The *French* generally are very forward in Matters of Civility. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Decemb. 27. 1697. N. S.

I Am sorry to find your Grace is obliged to go again into the Country, and that your Health will not permit your stay at *London*, which cannot but be a disadvantage to the Publick, as well as a great Concern to all your Friends. I mentioned in my last from this place, that as soon as I was at my House, I would notify my arrival, which now is in great forwardness. Till then, I cannot judge how they will receive me, tho' it is generally said, they will do all they can to return the Civilities their Ambassadors received in *England*, which they both have very much own'd. *Soranzo* is still under banishment, by reason he would not go to *Vienna*, and has nothing at present to do in the Government. I have taken my House for three months, tho' they were very unwilling to lett it for so little time. I suppose when I have pursued my Instructions, I may take my leave. I take notice of this so early, that I may have your Grace's Directions. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Jan. 3. 1698, N. S.

I Have notified my Arrival to the Republick, which they returned with a Compliment, and shall now settle the manner of my Reception, designing to have my first Audience as soon as I can. I cannot but think they are desirous of shewing some Proof of the great Honour they have for the King,

King, at least it is said so. I wish I may find them ready in agreeing to such things, as I shall desire in relation to our Trade, which our Merchants are of opinion will be also for their good as well as our own. The Senate has lately made a severe Decree, under pain of Fine and Banishment, in case any of the Nobles shall sollicite one the other for Votes in the Choice for any Employment whatsoever, it being come to that degree, that several of no sort of Merit were preferred by those means, which in time might prove fatal to their Government. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of ALBEMARLE.

My Lord,

Venice, Jan. 17. 1698, N. S.

I Took the liberty to trouble your Lordship from *Augsburgh*, that so I might have the honour of receiving your Commands in this place, in case there is any thing here for your Service. I should esteem it a great Happiness if I had an opportunity of acknowledging all your Favours, and I must desire you will believe me one that is desirous of being in your good opinion, and that my whole Life shall be intirely devoted to the Service of His Majesty, who has been pleased to confer so great an honour on me; and I shall endeavour to act so, as that I may have the good fortune of His Approbation. I am making all the haste I can to make my Entry, but have met with delays in relation to my Gondola's. I imagined they would have been finished against my arrival, but there was not that care taken which I expected.

The *French* Ambassador has been extreme civil, and was to wait on me in private, which I intend soon to return. The *Spanish* Ambassador has not been so forward; but just now he sent a Compliment, with a desire to wait on me. I was a little surprized at the Vote of the House of Commons for disbanding all the Army. I wish they may take such Resolutions as may be for the Good of *England*, and the Service of his Majesty. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Jan. 10. 1698. N. S.

I Cannot yet acquaint your Grace that I have made much progress with the College about the manner of my Reception, tho' it will not be long now. I find they propose to do all the honours possible, or that ever have been done to any King: But the way they transact in here is slow, it being first to be moved to the Doge and the College, and afterwards, before they can give any answer, it must be debated in the *Pregadi*, how trivial soever the matter is. I understand, under hand, that tho' they intend to offer to treat me three days wherever I will, yet they would be glad I would refuse it, as Lord *Falconberg* did when he was here. The Reason is partly the Expence, and partly their not knowing the Method, it having been so long since any Ambassador Extraordinary was here. Few or none are sent from other parts but *England*; those who reside here, have not that Character. I think to follow the Precedent of Lord *Falconberg*, and save my Right; so that it will be no prejudice to the Character the King has honoured me with, and make it an Obligation laid on them. It will be also easier to me; but that I would not consider, if it was an essential point. I am informed that they design to name a Resident for *England*: of which I shall know the certainty when I have my Audience. And if so, His Majesty will perhaps have also one here, at least for a little time; and it may be convenient for our Commerce. I take the

Affairs of STATE.

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the liberty to mention to your Grace that Mr. *Stanyan* might be proper and useful in that case : but I submit all this to what your Grace shall think best. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, 11 January, 1697.

I Have the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 3d instant, and have given his Majesty an Account of your Arrival at *Venice*. I hope you will find all Satisfaction there, and return in a better Season than you went.

We are in the Struggle of our Parliamentary Affairs ; there is a good Provision made for the Civil List, but we are more strait-laced, as to the keeping up of Troops, than I am afraid our Circumstances will well admit of. We are more jealous of our Constitution and Liberty than apprehensive of our ill Neighbours ; and therefore have allow'd but Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds, for maintaining the Guards and Garrisons this next Year, which we compute will keep about 4000 Horse and Dragoons, and 6000 Foot. We hope to patch up the rest of our Defence with our Militia, which Sir *Richard Onslow* tells us he will make useful. He hath advised upon a Project for that Purpose.

It will be no News to tell you, that my Lord *Sunderland* quitted his Staff a little precipitately. The Duke of *Shrewsbury* hath the offer of it, if his Health will give him leave to accept of it ; but he finds it so doubtful, that he resolves neither way.

The Czar of *Muscovy* arrived here this Morning, and lies *incognito* in *Arundel-street* near the Water, where he takes his only Delight. I suppose he will soon be going to *Chatham* or *Deptford*, his whole Thoughts being turned towards improving himself in Navigation, and the Art of building Ships, which he is a great Proficient in.

The King comes to the House of Lords to-morrow, to pass the Bill against corresponding with his Enemies. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Jan. 24. 1698.

I Thought to give your Grace an Account that next Tuesday was the Day agreed on between me and the College to make my Entry : but just now I received a Compliment from the Cavalier *Venier*, who is appointed to receive me, that it would be a great Favour, if I would defer it for some Days longer. I could make no other Answer to him, but that having fixed the Day with the College, I could not alter it, unless they did let me understand from them it was their desire. He is one of the College, and I suppose I shall be obliged to put it off. It is not to be imagined what little Policies they have for the Benefit of their Town. I have been delayed in all my Preparations, as much as is possible, with several Messages under hand, how it would be more for my Honour if I would defer it 'till *Lent*, only in hopes of keeping all the Strangers here some time longer. They have been under some fear lest I should not refuse their Offer of being lodged and treated, as was formerly usual, and would have had me declare my Intention, as my Lord *Falconberg* did ; but I thought it time enough to declare my Mind after they had made the Offer. Accordingly they proceeded to the Offer, and I dispensed with it, telling them I was not willing to put the Republick to such an Expence, &c. which has not a little obliged them. The *Spanish* Ambassador, who is the Duke of *Moles*, a *Neapolitan*, has been to make me

a visit; he has not much of the *Spaniard*, and has done all the obliging things possible.

I understand this Republick does not well know how to behave in relation to the King of *Poland*: but I believe the Difficulty will be soon over, because the Pope has now owned him, and a Nuncio is named for that purpose to go to *Poland*. General *Stenaw* is come from the *Morea*, and is disgusted, so has asked leave to quit this Service. It is uncertain whether it will be granted, by reason the *Venetians* will find it difficult to have another of such Experience by the next Campaign.

I have just now received the Answer from the College, and do find they have considered better of it, and I shall make my Entry on Tuesday next. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

London, January 20. 1697.

THE Prince and Princess, either through Forgetfulness or Mistake, having neglected to write by your Excellency, have commanded me to send these Letters to you, desiring your Excellency to make the best excuse you can for their Delay. I wish your Excellency and your good Company all the Pleasures of the Carnival, and a happy Return to Old *England*. I am,

EDW. GRIFFITH.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, 28 Jan. 1697.

I Have received the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 7th of this Month, with one for my Lord Duke of *Shrewsbury*, which I have sent to him in the Country, where he is still detained by the ill Condition of his Health. His Bleeding is stopt, but the Shortness of Breath continues, and makes him very uneasy: but I hope the Spring and warm Weather will have so good an effect, as to enable him to return to Town, and to be useful to the Publick.

My Lord *Sunderland* is now at his House in *Northamptonshire*, and intends to stay there some time. The Lord Chamberlain's Place remains vacant, and in all probability will not be disposed of 'till toward the end of this Session of Parliament, which will hardly end sooner than it used to do during the War, for they have a good deal of Work in hand. The providing Money for the Services of the Government, which they have already voted, will be no easy Task; and besides, the Enquiry they are making into the Abuses of the Cashiers and Receivers of the Publick Revenues, will take up no little time.

The House of Commons are looking likewise into the Grants that have been made by the Crown; but, if I may use the Expression, they have so loaded the Cart, by taking in all the Grants since the Year 1660, that they will not be able to get it along; which those Gentlemen were sensible of, who opposed looking back so far, but there was so great a Majority against them, that they could not stand their ground, &c. I am,

R. YARD.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Jan. 31. 1698.

THE Weather has continued so bad, that I was obliged to put off my Entry last Tuesday, being to be received out of *Venice*, at an Island, where there is no going when there are great Winds. I shall now soon see what the Republick will do in relation to our Merchants.

The

Affairs of STATE.

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The News of the last Post, that the King was sending a Squadron of seventeen Men of War into the Mediterranean, will have a very good Effect all over *Italy*, as well as this Place; and it is what will procure his Majesty justice, whenever it is demanded. I understand the Duke of *St. Albans* is gone to make a Compliment upon the Marriage of the Duke of *Burgundy*. I cannot tell if his Majesty has thoughts of doing the same to the Duke of *Savoy*. If so, at my return I might have that Honour, and with less Expence, than by sending one from *England*, unless he was to reside there. I take the liberty to mention this to your Grace, but shall submit myself to what you shall think most proper and convenient. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Lord MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 1. 1697.

MR. Tard having put into my hands your Excellency's Letters of the 10th and 17th of *January*, I have laid them before his Majesty, who commands me to acquaint your Excellency that he thinks your Stay needs not be long at *Venice* after the ceremonial part is over. As to your Recommendation of Mr. *Stanyan* to remain there with the Character of Resident; his Majesty has a very good Opinion of his Fitness for it, but He is not yet satisfied that it is of any great use to have one in that Station, which perhaps your Excellency will be able to inform him further of. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Feb. 7. 1698.

IN my last I acquainted your Grace that by reason of the ill Weather my Entry was put off 'till Monday the 3d this Stile, on which Day I was received at the Island of *St. Spirito* by the Cavalier *Venier* with about sixty Senators, each in a Gondola with four Oars. The next Day I was to have had my Audience, but there fell so much Rain that it was deferred 'till Wednesday, when I went in the like manner, except that the Gondolas had but two Oars. I send your Grace the Compliment I made them, which I was to receive in the College this Day. At my first Audience the Doge answered me in general Terms, with great Respect to the King, and I believe they are very desirous to have his Majesty's Friendship. The manner of my Reception Mr. *Stanyan* will send an account of. I shall now soon lay before them those Matters as relate to our Trade, and also what I have further in my Instructions, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech at his first Audience.

Most Serene Prince,

THE King my Master hath commanded me to acquaint your Serenity, that the late Embassy Extraordinary, which was sent from this most serene Republick, to congratulate his Majesty's happy Accession to the Crown of *England*, was very grateful and acceptable to Him; and tho' your Serenity may have been already informed of the good Intentions of the King my Master, yet he was willing to repeat the same by me, His Ambassador Extraordinary, that he might correspond in every particular to the Friendship he professes to have. Accordingly I have express Orders to assure your Serenity of the great Regard and Consideration the King my Master hath for this most Serene Republick, and how much he values and esteems your Friendship, which he is resolved not only to maintain and preserve, but likewise to cultivate and increase, as any opportunity of doing it shall offer. And as the Crown of *England*

hath this Advantage, almost peculiar to itself, above the rest of *Europe*, that its Alliance with this Republick has continued without a Stain or Blemish for a long Tract of Years, which no Vicissitude of Time, or Affairs, could ever alter, but has been perfectly observed; so the King my Master does intend to tread in the Steps of his Royal Predecessors, by cherishing and improving that which they have began and delivered down to Him, wherein I cannot doubt but this Serene Republick will find all possible Satisfaction; since it is the Friendship of a Great and Just King, of which most of the Princes in *Europe* have lately experienced the Fidelity and Advantage.

As for myself, I gladly take this opportunity of declaring the great Honour and Veneration I have ever had for this most Serene State; and I should esteem myself extremely happy, if I could be any way instrumental in continuing and increasing so good a Correspondence, which I shall endeavour to advance by all the good Offices that lie in my power.

Copy of the SENATE's Answer to his Excellency's first Speech.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Senate received with a great deal of Satisfaction and Gratitude the Sentiments of the King of *Great Britain* towards Our Republick, which you was pleased so largely to acquaint Us with, and does gladly receive you as His Ambassador Extraordinary towards Us.

We are fully persuaded of His Majesty's favourable Inclination towards Us, both upon the account of Our ancient and unalterable Friendship with the Crown of *England*, and for the particular Respect we profess for His Royal Person, whose Name having been long famous for warlike Actions, is now likewise become so for the great Prudence and Zeal he has shewn in promoting and facilitating the so much desired Peace of Christendom, upon the account of the good Consequences that may attend it, in oppressing the common Enemy.

We return His Majesty Our most hearty Thanks for so signal a Proof of His Kindness, together with the greatest Assurances of the Sincerity of Our Intentions, in continuing a perfect and good Correspondence with Him; and we desire you to acquaint the King your Master with these our cordial Sentiments, and the Obligation which the Senate acknowledges to have to Him for His kind Message which He has been pleased to send Us by the means of so honourable a Person; and you may assure yourself, that We shall always be glad to see you, and take a particular Care to give you all Satisfaction and Content, as well for the Noble Character you bear, as for the particular Prerogatives of Nobility and Prudence which adorn your Person.

IT will not be improper in this place to give my Readers a short Account of the Government of *Venice*, and in what manner Ambassadors of crowned Heads are received, and how they transact their business with the Republick: as it is very different from what is practised in other places, and as it will explain what is contained in the latter end of this Book.

Within two or three days after an Ambassador is arrived, he sends a Message to the College, by his Secretary, who notifies to the Secretary of the College, called out by the Door-keeper, that the Ambassador is arrived, and that he designs to make his publick Entry very soon, and shall desire a publick Audience. The Secretary of State goes into the College, and returns to the Ambassador's Secretary, to whom he says, *il Savio ha inteso*, that is, the *Sage* has understood it. All other Messages are thus sent by the Secretary, and all Memorials are presented by him. The Answers to them are brought to the Ambassador's House by a Secretary of the Republick, who there

there dictates them to the Secretary of the Ambassador, after he has read them to the Ambassador himself in the presence of his Secretary : but he carries the original Writings back with him. The Secretaries of the College, the Senate, &c. are never chosen out of the Body of the Nobility, but always out of the principal Families of the other Inhabitants, called there *Cittadini*. By *Cittadini* they mean all the better sorts of the Inhabitants, as Lawyers, Physicians, and others, above the degree of a Merchant.

When the Day for an Ambassador's Publick Entry is agreed on, he goes early in the Morning with all his rich Gondolas with four Oars each, and accompanied by his Domesticks, the Consul, all the Merchants, and others of his Nation, to a Convent on an Island about two Miles from *Venice*. There a *Cavalier* of the Golden Stole, who is a Nobleman that has been Ambassador to some crowned Head, and usually one who has been at the Court of the Ambassador's Master, comes in a Gondola with four Oars, accompanied by sixty other Noblemen, all Members of the Senate, all in their own Gondolas with four Oars, and in their scarlet Robes, to compliment the Ambassador in the Name of the Republick. The Ambassador receives all the Company in the Convent, and after a short stay, he steps into the Gondola of the *Cavalier*, and each Nobleman takes one of the Suite of the Ambassador into his Gondola, where the Ambassador and all his Company, to the lowest of his Servants that are out of Livery, take place of the Noblemen. Thus they row up to *Venice*, and going into the Ambassador's Palace, the *Cavalier* keeps on the left-hand of the Ambassador, who gives the *Cavalier* the right-hand when he conducts him down Stairs, and so do all his Attendants to the Senators.

The next day the same *Cavalier* and Senators appear in Gondolas, with two Oars each, before the Palace of the Ambassador, who receives the *Cavalier* on the middle of the Stairs, giving the right-hand to the *Cavalier*, as his Attendants do to the Nobles ; for then it is looked upon as if he was at home. The Ambassador entertains the whole Company, on both days, with some Refreshments, as Chocolate, Coffee, Limonade, Sweet-Meats, &c. In going out of his Palace, the Ambassador takes again the right-hand of the *Cavalier*, and so do his Attendants of the Senators ; and thus they go in the several Gondolas, where the left side is the most honourable place. They all go up the College, the Doors of which stand wide open. As soon as the Ambassador enters the College, the Doge and all the Members of the College rise up from their Seats. The Ambassador makes three Bows, one at the Door, one in the middle of the Room, and the third before the Throne of the Doge. Then the Ambassador sits down on the *right hand* of the Doge, covers himself, and presents his Credential Letters, which are read by a Secretary of the College ; after which, the Ambassador makes his Speech, the Doors of the College being all the while left wide open for the Masks, and every body. The Doge answers to the Speech, and then the Ambassador returns home, where he does again regale the Company with all sorts of Refreshments ; after which, he conducts the *Cavalier* to his Gondola, giving him the right hand. During those two days, the whole Town is in mask, and there is Musick all night in the Ambassador's House, where all who will come, are entertain'd with Wine, Coffee, and all sort of Refreshments, so that crouds of Masks go and come continually ; small Guns, or Mortars are fired about the House, &c. There are Trumpets and Drums ; and great quantities of Loaves of Bread, and Pitchers with Wine are given away to the common People, who croud about the Palace.

The Ambassador's Speech is by the *Sage* of the Week reported to the Senate with the Answer, which the College has prepared for the Senate to consider on. When this Answer, or any other, is approved of by the Senate, the College sends a Secretary to the Ambassador, to know when his Excellency will come to the College to receive the Senate's Answer to his Speech. He appoints generally the next morning, and then he is rowed, with all his

Retinue in Gondolas, to the Place of *St. Mark*, and goes over an inner Court of the Palace up the open Stairs, &c. all his Company and Servants walking before him, except his Secretary, who usually walks on his left side. When he comes to the Antichamber of the College, he sits down to rest, and sends word by a Secretary of the College, who waits for him, that he is come. Then the Doors are immediately opened, and he goes in alone, and the Doors are shut. He makes his three Bows, and sits again covered on the right hand of the Doge, who reads the Senate's Answer to him. After this the Ambassador and his Secretary go with the Secretary of the College into the Chapel of the Palace, where the Secretary dictates the Answer of the Senate to the Ambassador's Secretary. Then the Secretary of State accompanies the Ambassador to the head of the first Stairs only, and no farther. The Ambassador goes down these and the great open Stairs, called the Stairs of the *Giants*; then, and only at that time, he walks over the Place of *St. Mark*, and so thorough all the *Merceria*, which is a long Street full of Shops, down to the *Rialto* Bridge, where he takes his Gondolas and goes home. At other times he goes from the Palace directly to his Gondola.

Tho' all Audiences here are publick Audiences, yet does no one Person wait on, and conduct the Ambassador, either from his House, nor even from the Stairs of the Palace of *St. Mark*, except only at his first Audience. The *Doge* and the whole College always rise as soon as the Ambassador comes into the Room, and they do not sit down nor cover themselves till the Ambassador sits down: but the *Doge* does not take off his Crown or Ducal Horn; because, as the *Venetians* say, this Horn is the Symbol of their Dominion, and under the absolute Power of the Republick; and the Duke not being a Sovereign, he has no power of taking it off when he pleases. This however is no good Reason, because the Vice-Doge keeps on his black Cap in the College, when an Ambassador appears there, at a time that a Doge is sick, or absent, and even then Ambassadors speak as if the Doge was there, and begin their Speech with *Most Serene Prince*, &c. and the Doge takes off this Horn in the College, when a Sovereign Prince or a Cardinal appears there.

The College, consisting of Twenty-six Noblemen, are the Doge, whose Post is for Life; six *Consiglieri*, Counsellors, who are chosen by the Great Council for eight Months; that is, those three, who are chosen on the first of *April*, go out on the first of *December*; and those three that are chosen on the first of *June*, go out on the first of *February* following. In the absence of the Doge, the eldest of these Counsellors is always Vice-Doge. Three *Capi di Quaranta*, Heads of the Courts of forty Judges. These are chosen by the Senate, for two Months each. Six *Savii del Consiglio*, Sages of the Council, likewise chosen by the Senate; they serve Three Months, so that every three Months three go out, and three new ones come in. Five *Savii di Terra firma*, Sages of the Continent, who are likewise chosen by Ballot in the Senate for six Months; and of these, three are chosen on the first of *July*, and they go out on the first of *January*; two come in on the first of *October*, and go out on the first of *April* following. Five *Savii agli Ordini*, Sages of Order, who are likewise chosen by Ballot in the Senate for six Months each, and two come in on the first of *October*, and go out on the first of *April*; the other three come in on the first of *July*, and go out on the first of *January*. This College is addressed to by the Words *Serenissima Signoria*, Most Serene Dominion, because it represents the Publick Majesty.

The Senate was so called à *Senibus*, from the Elders, because it was the Custom anciently that the Doges, when they had a much greater Power than they have now, chose some of the Eldest and most Experienced among the Inhabitants of *Venice*, to consult with on difficult matters, and in times of danger: but about the Year 1284, the Great Council constituted an ordinary Senate, consisting of sixty Persons, who were called *Pregadi*, from their being

being desired to undertake the Ordinary Business of the Republick; and in the Year 1345, sixty more were added to them, and they were called the *Aggiunta*, Addition. Besides these, several others sit in the Senate, by virtue of their Employments, as the Procurators of *St. Mark*, the whole College, the Council of Ten, the forty Criminal Judges, and others, so that the whole number does consist of 250, some few of which have no Votes. This Assembly is stiled *Excellentissimo Senato*, most Excellent Senate. The *Savio* of the Week calls them together every Thursday and every Saturday in the Afternoon, and sometimes on other Days upon extraordinary Occasions.

Here every thing that relates to the Government of the State is digested and resolved on. The sixty of the *Pregadi* are chosen by the Great Council by Ballot at ten meetings in *August* and *September*, and these begin their Function on the first of *October* following. When one of them dies, another is immediately chosen. The sixty of the *Adjunta* are chosen in like manner by the Great Council, on the 30th of *September* in the Morning, and when one of them dies, another is immediately chosen in his room.

The Great Council, in which all Noblemen, who have attained to the Age of Twenty-two, have a Right to sit, and which at present consists of about seventeen Hundred Men, is the whole Legislature, and the Sovereign Power of the Land; it chuses the Doges, and other great Officers of the State, appoints the whole Senate, makes War and Peace, &c. This Great Council meets every Sunday, and on some Holidays, in the Morning early. Every Nobleman, at his entrance into the Room, receives at the Door a small Ball made of Linnen, because it should make no noise when it falls into the thick wooden balloting Box; and every one that goes out of the Room leaves a Ball at the Door, by which means the Door-keeper always knows how many Noblemen remain in the Great Council-Room. When a great Employment is to be disposed of, the Doors are shut, and a number of Balls, equal to the number of the Noblemen present, are put into a deep Nobleman's Cap; three of these are of Gold, and all the others of Silver. Then they call up the Noblemen one by one, alphabetically, and each draws a Ball, and shews it, and so they go on 'till all the three Golden Balls are drawn out. Those who draw the Golden Balls have a Right to name a Candidate for the place, and the Name of this Candidate they write on a little piece of Paper. The three Persons thus wrote down are each of them separately balloted for; and he who has the greatest Majority of these three, is declared the Person chosen for the Employment. A number of Hospital-Boys, all under fourteen Years of Age, go with the Balloting-Boxes down by the Seats on which the Noblemen sit, and hold the Box before each Man 'till he puts in his Ball. This Machine is a round hollow Tube of Wood, open before, and it has a wooden Handle behind. Two wooden Boxes are skrewed to this Tube, the one painted green, and the other red. Each Nobleman holds his Linnen Ball betwixt his Fore-finger and his Thumb, then he thrusts his Hand into the Tube to the bottom, and drops the Ball, either in the green Box which holds those that confirm, or into the red Box which holds those that reject. This is all done with wonderful quickness, there being as many Boys, and as many Balloting-Boxes employed, as there are Benches. The Boys run back towards the Throne, on each side of which, but on the floor, sits an *Avogadore*, somewhat-like a Tribune of the People in ancient *Rome*; before each of these *Avogadores* stands a Table, which has a Box, or open Drawer, fixed with Hinges to one side of it, into which all the Balls are emptied, the green Boxes going to the right hand, and the red Boxes being unscrew'd and emptied on the left side. Each Table is covered with a black Board, in which are two hundred Holes in regular Order, and each Hole is capable of holding one of these white Linnen Balls. The *Avogadore* lifts up the Box with the Hinges, puts the Balls upon the Table, and fills all the Holes with them. When these Holes are filled up, the Board, which is under this black Board with Holes, is let down, and pulled up again with a String,

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by which means all the Balls fall into the hollow of the Table, after which they fill the Holes again 'till all the Balls are counted, which is very soon done. Then does the *Avogadore*, on the one side, send up the number of the Yeas, and the other that of the No's, on a small note. If these two numbers correspond with the number of the Noblemen that are present, it is declared how the Ballot stands.

All Voting in the Great Council, the College, the Senate, and all the Courts of Judicature, is done by Ballot, without any Mistake, or any sort of Confusion or Disturbance; and it prevents Bribery, Faction, and Animosities, and those ill Consequences, which they might otherwise produce. In the Courts of Judicature they have three Boxes to put the Balls in, and the Balls that are put into the middle Box are supposed to come from those, who are not determin'd in their Judgment, or have not heard the whole Cause out. It is quite impossible, either for the Boy that holds the balloting Machine, or for those who sit on each side of the Balloter, to know which way he ballots.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Eyford, 12 Feb. 1697.

BY the last Accounts I received from your Excellency of the 30th of *January*, I understand you have a desire to call at *Turin*, to make his Majesty's Compliments there, which would be easy to you, and less expensive to the King; but this having been laid before his Majesty by Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, I perceive the King is not yet resolved when he will send a Compliment to that Court. I am,

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Feb. 14. 1698.

I Have been taken up this last Week in the usual Visits of Ceremony of the Duke of *Moles* Ambassador from *Spain*, and Monf. *de la Haye* Ambassador from *France*. The Ricevitor of *Malta*, who is here in the nature of an Envoy, hath not been with me. I understand the *Grand Maistre* has directed him to act as the Pope's Nuncio, who never can visit any one from *England*, as your Grace knows. Besides, he says, the King hath not notified to them his Accession to the Crown. I rather believe the true reason is their Zeal for the Religion of *St. Germans*.

I intend on Monday next to go again to the College, and as soon as I have their Answer, I will acquaint your Grace with it, and then I shall have little to do but to take my leave. The last Post we had from *Flanders* brought no Letters from *England*. The News we have from *Turkey*, by *Messina*, is, that on the 7th of *December* my Lord *Paget* received a Message from the Grand Vizier to repair to *Adrianople*. The cause of this Invitation is supposed to arise from the Grand Signior's Inclinations for a Peace, the Country being reduced to great Poverty. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, 18 Feb. 1697.

I Have the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 7th instant, which gives an account of your Audience, and I have laid it before his Majesty. I have no other thing in Command than what I have already acquainted your Excellency with. His Majesty leaves it to you to return as soon as you think it convenient. He does not find it necessary you should

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go to the Court of *Savoy*, as you proposed to my Lord Duke of *Shrewsbury*; for his Majesty hath only received a Letter from thence notifying the Marriage, to which he hath returned an Answer. I don't doubt but Mr. *Tard* acquaints you in what manner the House of Commons justify'd Mr. *Montague* on *Wednesday* last. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, 21 Feb. 1698.

I Understand by yours of the 15th, that your Grace has received several of mine, the last being of the 3d instant. I have now been at the College, and have laid before them all Matters contained in my Instructions, except the Case of Mr. *Rider*, which I should not have omitted, had it not been more for his service, it being of a long standing, and the Methods they have proceeded in not very justifiable nor regular, and there being so many in the like condition, the Republick could not possibly have granted it without doing the same to others. But now a more private way is proposed, which he is more likely to succeed in, and which Mr. *Stanyan* has acquainted him with. I send your Grace what I said, and also the Memorial I delivered, since which I have received the inclosed Answer; but I am in hopes of receiving a more particular one, this being, as your Grace will see, very general. I shall have occasion, in a few days, to go again to present the Letters from the Prince and Princess of *Denmark*, which by some mistake were not given me when I took my leave, and are but now come to my hands. I shall then speak in such a manner, that they may see I expect some Resolutions; tho' nothing is to be done here but by Time; and as it would be of great advantage to our Trade, and also to this State, if these things were done, so I cannot but think, as I wrote before, that it would be very convenient to keep a Resident here; and it is said here, that the Republick designs one for *England*. I must desire your Grace will let Mr Secretary *Vernon* acquaint the King with my proceedings, since I find your Health will not permit you to come to Town. I shall soon see what I shall be able to do, and then I will take my leave, and return by *France* to *England*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Copy of His EXCELLENCY's Speech mention'd in the foregoing Letter.

Most Serene Prince,

THE Assurances your Serenity gave me at my last Audience, of the great Value and Esteem this Serene Republick hath for the Friendship of the King my Master, give me good reasons to hope I shall now find your Serenity ready to comply with any Proposals that may strengthen and improve it, and to redress any ill Practices, which in time might have proved prejudicial to so good an Understanding.

I shall avoid troubling your Serenity at this time further than by only touching the Heads of some of them, chusing to refer myself for the Particulars to a Memorial which I shall leave in your Serenity's hands. I must therefore interpose with your Serenity, in the King my Master's Name, that Justice may be done, to some of his Subjects in particular that have been injured, and that those in general who reside here, and carry on a Trade so beneficial to this State, may be freed from the hardships they lie under in relation to it. Some of these matters I presume your Serenity has been already made acquainted with by your late Ambassadors to the King my Master, since they were particularly recommended to them by his Majesty.

The first is in relation to His Seamen, who have been frequently seduced from *English* Merchant-Ships, much to the prejudice of Trade, and sent into

the service of this State, and afterwards made Slaves in the Gallies, a Punishment wholly unknown to the Subjects of *England*.

The next is in favour of the Merchants here, desiring they may have liberty to sell their Fish to whom they please, as they have in all other Merchandize; since the putting a restraint on Trade has been ever found a Disadvantage to any State.

The third is the Case of the Ship called the *Mary of Weymouth*, and the fourth that of the *Samuel and Mary*, the Owners whereof deserve, and expect relief; the latter being a Matter of State rather than of Commerce.

I have also Orders to desire your Favour and Justice to the right Heirs of Sir *William Godolphin*, deceased in *Spain*, who may be otherwise deprived of their Right, contrary to the known Laws of *England*, and, as I am informed, of this most Serene Republick.

I do earnestly recommend to your serious Consideration, the dispatch of all these matters; and shall esteem myself very fortunate, if I can carry back such convincing Proofs of your Good-will and Affection to the King my Master, as I am a witness of his Majesty's to this Serene Republick.

Copy of the Memorial mentioned in the foregoing Speech.

Most Serene Prince,

WHEREAS several of his Majesty's seafaring Subjects have been seduced from the Masters of Merchant Ships upon their arrival here, and entred on board the Ships of War of this State, where after having served some time, they have been desirous to return home; but not having been able to obtain leave, many have been forced to run away, some of which having been apprehended again, have for the said pretended Crime, been condemned to the Gallies: which being a practice very extraordinary, as well as the punishment, and wholly unknown to the Subjects of *England*, the King my Master hath given me express Orders to interpose in his Royal Name, with this Republick, for the redressing the said Grievances. And accordingly I do earnestly desire that this State would speedily give effectual Orders for the releasing of all such Seamen, being Subjects of *England*, as are now on board any of the Ships or Gallies of this Republick, that they may be at liberty to return home to their native Country, or otherwise dispose of themselves as they shall think most for their Advantage: And further, to prevent the like Inconveniencies for the future, and cut off all matter of Complaint upon this account, which his Majesty very unwillingly hears of so good Friends, I do instantly request that this Republick would give strict Orders to all the Commanders of their Ships and Gallies, and that it be made a standing Rule with them, never to receive on board of their Vessels any Seaman, Subject of the King my Master, unless he first produces a discharge in writing, from the Master of the Vessel to whom he belongs; and in such case, his Majesty does not pretend to exclude any of his Subjects from the Service of his good Friends and Allies, while their Country does not want them. But without this method, those practices have been found to be very prejudicial to the *English* Navigation, several Ships having been forced to stay in Port for want of such Seamen to sail them, as have been debauched by indirect means; and therefore I persuade myself such desertions will no longer meet with any Encouragement from this State.

The next thing which I am commanded by his Majesty to recommend to your Justice and Favour, as a point he has very much at heart, is the freeing his Subjects who reside here upon the account of Trade, from several Hardships and Inconveniencies they now lie under in the carrying it on: which being a matter so advantageous to the Subjects of this State as well as his own; his Majesty assures himself, that this Republick will readily join with him in all reasonable things that can be asked for the Improvement and Increase

of it, desiring that more of his Subjects may be invited to come and settle here, by the good treatment they may meet with, instead of discouraging those who now are here, by loading them with new burdens: And in order thereto, it is desired that the following Privileges may be granted them.

1. That whatsoever kind of Salmon, or Salt-Fish shall be for the future imported into this City from the Dominions of his Majesty of *Great Britain*, may be freed from any Imposition of *Stima*, or Price to be set upon it by the *Giustizia Vecchia*, or any Tribunal whatsoever; and that the Merchant importing may be left at liberty to contract for the same with whatsoever Persons shall present, according as is practised with the several other Merchandizes brought hither from the said Dominions, and even with that Commodity in all the rest of *Italy*, and in *Spain*, *Portugal*, &c.
2. That the *Piegeria* of a thousand Ducats, given into the Magistrate of the *Cinque Savii* not to load in the Gulph, may be so far regulated, that the *English* Merchant may have liberty to send his Ship to any of the Ports of *Puglia*, and there load Goods of the growth of that Country for the Dominions of *England*, *France*, *Ireland*, or *Hamburgh*, provided they have security to produce within a competent time Responsals or valid Proof of the landing the said Goods in some Port or Ports of the Dominions aforesaid.
3. That the Magistrate of *Cinque Savii* (the five Sages of the Board of Trade) may be appointed to hear and determine all Causes and Differences wherein the Subjects of *England* are concerned, as well *attivamente* as *passivamente*, according to the Privileges granted to some other Nations.
4. That what Merchandizes shall appear, by Bill of Lading, to be originally designed for the Islands of *Zant*, may be permitted *Transito*, and to remain on board the same Ship without any further obligation than the declaring them in a Manifesto for *Transito*, with the rest of her Lading, as that is practised.

The third Business that the King my Master has very strictly commanded me to represent to Your Serenity, is a matter wherein the Honour and Justice of this Republick are equally concerned, and the more for having been so long depending, after frequent Applications made, although the Injustice of the Fact, and the necessity of making Reparation be equally palpable. It is the Case of the Ship *Mary of Weymouth*, *Edward Wall* Master; which being laden with Rice and Coffee, and having on board 4678 Dollars, was about *July* 1687, at *Napoli di Romania*, when the *Venetian* Fleet came to besiege that place, which the Master perceiving, cut his Cables, came out, and saluted the General *Francis Morosini*, who sent for him on board, whither he accordingly went, and gave the said General a true Account of all Passages during his being in that Port, that might be of use for him to know, in the prosecution of the intended Siege. Whereupon the next day a Council of War was called, consisting of the General himself, those of *Malta*, and of the Grand Duke, and the Patron of the Pope's Galleys, where it was resolved that the said Goods and Money on board the said Ship ought not to be confiscated, being under the Protection of the Crown of *England*. Notwithstanding which, the said General detained the Ship from the 4th of *August* 1687, to the 19th of *December* following, in which time all the said Goods and Money were taken out of the Ship, by order of the General, without so much as giving a Receipt for the same; the damages received thereby amounting unto 21706 Dollars, (at eight Livres each) as appears by the Oaths of divers Persons: For the Reparation of which injury, Applications have been frequently made, but hitherto without any success. Therefore I recommend the matter to your speedy determination, and cannot doubt but you will think it just and necessary to relieve his Majesty's Subjects, in this Case, who have been so long Sufferers without any colour for denying Satisfaction.

There

There is another Case, of State rather than of Commerce, for which this Republick is engaged in an extraordinary Manner, not only to cause Reparation to be made, but likewise to inflict an exemplary Punishment on such of the Subjects of this State, who, under pretence of a *French Commission*, have had the insolence to attempt to rob the Subjects of the King my Master; which might have been a means of violating the good Correspondence that has so long flourished between the Crown of *England* and this State, if his Majesty, confiding entirely in your Justice, had not had more tender regard to the ancient Friendship establish'd, than to the reasonable Requests of his Subjects. It is the Case of the Ship *Samuel and Mary*, *John Taylor* Master, which sailing out of the Port of *Cephalonia*, laden with Currans, and bound for *England*, on the 14th of *April* 1693, spied a Sail to the westward, before she was out of sight of the Port, which gave chase to the said Ship, under *Dutch* Colours, and when she was within Gun-shot, put up *French* Colours, and engaged the said Ship for two Hours, who endeavouring to make a running Fight along the Shore, in hopes of getting back into the Port of *Zant*, run aground within six Miles thereof; notwithstanding which, she continued to defend herself so well, that the Enemy left her.

This Enemy, that so engaged her, proved to be a *Venetian*, owned and manned by *Venetians*, called the *Loyal Subject*, commanded by Captain *John Girau*, with a *French Commission*, as aforesaid. By reason of which Engagement and running ashore, the said Ship *Samuel and Mary* received damage to the value of one Thousand three Hundred and Twenty Ducats, as will appear by the particulars; for which no Satisfaction has been given, altho' the Captain General *Mocenigo* was so sensible of the wrong, that he promis'd to procure it, but hitherto no effect has followed: and therefore I earnestly recommend to your Wisdom, to provide such a Remedy, as the nature of the thing deserves; the Crime being very heinous in itself, and attended with this aggravating Circumstance, that *English* Ships are obliged to pay One Hundred and Twenty Ducats each, for the protection, as it is call'd, of the Republick, and at the same time one of them is attack'd by its Subjects at the Mouth of the Gulph.

There is one point more, which I am commanded to acquaint your Serenity with, that is very extraordinary in itself, and well deserves your Consideration; and it is the Case of Sir *William Godolphin*, who had been formerly Ambassador from the Crown of *England* to that of *Spain*, and continued at *Madrid* many Years after the Determination of his Character, and there died the 11th of *July* 1696, leaving an Estate in *England*, *Spain*, *Rome*, and *Amsterdam*, to the value of Eighty Thousand Pounds sterling in the whole, whereof not above one fourth was in *England*. On the 30th of *March* 1696, being surrounded by Priests and Jesuits, as he lay bed-ridden, a Publick Notary was sent for, and an Act passed, but not signed by his own Hand, wherein it is declared that four Persons, naming them, (whereof three were Priests) should be his *Testamentarios*, to make a Will for him after his Death, giving to each of them in this Instrument, a Legacy, and certain Sums for Masses, and other such uses; naming two Persons to be join'd to the other four, to execute the Will, which should be made after his Death by the four, for the good of his Soul, which he declared his universal Heir. Some Months after this, and a very few Months before he died, that is towards the latter end of *June* O. S. he makes another Will, wherein he gives Legacies to some of his Relations in *England*, and then dies. This last Will only has been duly proved in *England*, and Administration of all the Goods of the Deceased granted to two principal Legatees, *Francis Godolphin*, and *Elizabeth* his Sister; who, as the only next of kin, in equal degree to Sir *William*, are intitled, according to the Constitution of *England*, to divide the whole residue of this Estate, not actually given by him, though his Notarial Act of the 30th of *March* should be admitted to be a good Will, which therefore is not necessary to be controverted, it being revoked by the succeeding one.

one. But tho' they should consist with each other, yet not one fourth of the whole is actually given by both together. So that the question is, whether the residuary part, to which the Soul is declared Heir, by this Notarial Act of the 30th of *March*, shall, for so much as is here in *Venice*, being about Eighty-six Thousand Ducats, be left to the discretionary Disposition of the Priests, by a Will to be made by them, after the Death of the Party, contrary to all Constitutions, but a modern Practice in *Spain* only; or whether the right Heirs shall be entitled to the Residue at *Venice*. A Determination in favour of the right Heirs will seem more reasonable in this Case, when it shall appear that near half of this whole Estate will be subject to the *Spanish* Mode of a posthumous Will, and this executed by *Testamentarios* in favour of themselves, rather than to answer the Testator's Intentions for his Soul, there being given Three Thousand Pistoles to the Sister of one of the *Testamentarios* by the Will, which they have made five Months after the Death of the Party; besides very many great Gifts to others of their own Relations, at the same time that they hinder the Testator's Relations from receiving their just Legacies. This is a short state of the Matter, which is now depending before the Magistrate of the *Avogaria di Commun*; and I earnestly beg that your Serenity would give directions that they do justice therein to the Subjects of the King my Master, that so they may preserve so much at least of this Estate, as is in the Bank of *Venice*, from such Artifice of the *Spanish* Priests, as I would presume this Republick would not suffer to be practis'd upon its own Subjects, or in its own Dominions.

MANCHESTER.

The SENATE's Answer to the foregoing Speech and Memorial.
Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THIS Republick has always taken particular care to give his Majesty the most sincere Proofs of a perfect good Correspondence, and at all times has treated His Subjects with the greatest Favour and Kindness. However, upon what you set forth in your late Memorial, both in relation to Trade, and to two Ships, the one called the *Mary of Weymouth*, and the other the *Samuel and Mary*, we have referred the Examination of those Matters to the Magistrates to whom they properly belong; and do assure you, as to the *English* Seamen, that it has always been the constant Maxim and Practice of the Government never to use violence, or give disturbance to any Person, and that Differences between *English* Captains and their Seamen have always been determin'd according to the Laws of *England*. Nevertheless, upon your Representation, we have given orders to enquire if any thing has been done contrary to our firm Intentions of affording them all possible Favour and Assistance; so far are we from giving them any vexation or trouble.

As to the Cause depending before the *Avogaria di Commun*, about the Estate of Sir *William Godolphin* deceased, we press for a speedy and final Determination of it; and all this we do to persuade His Majesty of our perfect Agreement, in whatever may be for His Satisfaction, and to give your Lordship a further Confirmation of our Regard and Esteem for the Crown of *England*, and your conspicuous Character.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY,

My Lord,

Venice, Feb. 28. 1698.

IN my Letter of the 21st instant, I acquainted your Grace that I had received the Letters from the Prince and Princess of *Denmark* to this Republick, and I have since presented them, making the best excuse I could; especially since I was to imagine what they contained, their Secretary having sent me no Copies of them. I was also under some difficulty how to behave myself, having had no Directions about it from your Office. I send your Grace a Copy of what I said upon this Occasion, where you will find

I took notice of their Answer to my Memorial, lest they should have believed that general Words were sufficient; which is often their Custom, when they are unwilling to grant what is desired. I am since satisfy'd they do intend me a more particular Answer. I am sure I have asked nothing but what will be to the Advantage of this State, as well as our Trade, though it may not be for the Interest of a few private Persons and inferior Courts. These things have been endeavoured at these twenty Years, without success; and if I have the good fortune to succeed, it will be on account of their desire of his Majesty's Friendship. I hope by the next Post I shall be able to let your Grace know when I intend to take my leave, but I am willing to see some issue of this Matter if I can. I have thoughts of returning by *Turin*, which is much the nearest way: yet I shall only pass through, unless I receive some directions from your Grace; otherwise I do not know well how to avoid waiting on the Duke of *Savoy*, and that may perhaps not be proper. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

His Excellency the Earl of MANCHESTER's Speech, when he delivered the Letters from the Prince and Princess of Denmark.

Most Serene Prince,

THE great Honour and Respect their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of *Denmark* have for this most Serene Republick, and their desire of corresponding in particular to the Civilities they received from it, bring me this day to the College, to present to your Serenity these Letters from their Royal Highnesses; by which, tho' they came, by some mistake, but lately to my hands, you may be assured they did never intend to omit the first opportunity of declaring their Good-Will and Affection to this Serene Republick.

I take this occasion to acquaint your Serenity, that the Answer to the Memorial I lately delivered, and which was sent me by one of your Secretaries, confirms me more in the Opinion that this Serene Republick is desirous of continuing a good Correspondence with the King my Master; since I perceive by it, that the Matters contained therein, are referred to the Consideration of the proper Magistrates, to whom, I doubt not, they will appear so reasonable, that I persuade myself I shall have such Satisfaction in every particular, before I take my leave, that nothing will be able to disunite or alienate the King my Master from the Interest of this Serene Republick.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

London, March 1. 1694.

I Acknowledge with great satisfaction the honour of your Lordship's Letter of the fourth of *February*. I congratulate your Lordship upon the publick Honours you have received in your Embassy, wherein you have been wanting in nothing, which concerns his Majesty's Glory and the Dignity of the Nation. What I am to wish, after this, is only your return to us in Health and Safety.

I am-forry to acquaint your Lordship that the Peace has not made the business at *Westminster* more easy this Winter. Things have proceeded more heavily than ever, and the Malice of the opposing Party has been more particularly directed against your Friend and mine in the House of Commons, because they are sensible how useful, and indeed how necessary he is. But it has all ended hitherto very highly to his honour.

There is nothing can please me more than to receive any Commands from your Lordship, in which I may be serviceable here, as being with all possible truth and respect, &c.

SOMERS.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Venice, March 7. 1698.

I Am obliged to you for yours of *Feb. 1.* wherein I see you have acquainted His Majesty with mine of *January 17, &c.* I suppose before this my Lord Duke will have received others, wherein it will appear I have made all the dispatch I could, and I should be very glad to begin my Journey for *England.* The Matters contained in my Instructions are of such a nature, that in course they must be referred to several Magistrates, before the Senate will come to any Resolution; and its interfering with the private Interest of some of them, makes this delay: tho', as I am informed, they press them for their opinion. On occasion of presenting the Letters of the Prince and Princess, I thought it convenient also to remind them of it, as you will see by the inclosed, with their Answer, which seems as if they were well inclined. In case I hear nothing from them, I will once more press them, and then take my leave, which I believe I may do about ten days hence. The Weather has been extremely bad, with much Snow, so that it will be ill passing the Mountains. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, March 7. 1698.

I Send your Grace the Answer I received from the Senate to the Letters of the Prince and Princess, where they give me hopes as if they would grant what I have desired of them. In case I do not soon hear from them, I shall once more press them, and then take my leave, which I believe will be about ten days hence. I have received a Letter from Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, wherein I find that the King would not have me make any long stay here; which I shall obey, being very willing to leave this place, tho' the Weather is so extreme bad, with much Snow, &c. that I fear I shall find it difficult to pass the Alps to Lyons. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The SENATE'S Answer to His EXCELLENCY'S Speech, upon his delivering the Letters from the Prince and Princess of Denmark.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Senate received the Letters you were pleased to present to Us, in the Name of the Prince and Princess of *Denmark*, with great Satisfaction; and the Assurances they have given Us of their Good-will and Affection towards Our Republick, do more and more increase in Us the desire of giving them continued Proofs of a perfect good Correspondence; and we desire you to assure Them of our cordial Sentiments towards them. In the mean time we acquaint you, that we press our Magistrates for the necessary Informations upon the Matters contained in your Memorial, with a design of giving all possible Satisfaction to His Majesty, as well as to answer the Instances made by your Lordship, whom we equally love and value.

To

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, March 14. 1698.

According to what I mentioned to your Grace in my last, I have acquainted the College, that I should be obliged to take my leave the next Week; and that I was desirous I might have their Answer to those Matters which I had proposed to them. To which they reply'd, that they should be always ready to give me Audience, and that also they would do their endeavour to satisfy me in every particular: so that in very few days I expect to hear from them. I understand that the *Venetian* Ambassador at *Paris* has given the Republick an Account, that my Lord *Portland*, in his two Audiences, had proposed to the *French* King, and pressed him to remove the late King *James*, and disband the *Irish* Troops now in his service; but that the *French* King had denied it, and would not hear of any such Proposal. The warlike Preparations of the *French*, cause many discourses here. Some say, he has a design upon *Geneva*, and that he will assist the Duke of *Savoy* in taking it, to shew his great Zeal against the Protestants, &c. We have an Account here that my Lord *Paget* has had several Audiences of the Grand Vizier at *Adrianople*, and that they talk there of a Peace, which this Republick would be very glad of; and this makes them more willing to shew favours to the *English* Merchants here, whilst they hope to procure it by His Majesty's means. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, March 21. 1698.

I find it is to no purpose to expect any longer an Answer from the Republick to the Matters I have proposed to them: for were their Promises sincere, they might have long before this come to some Resolution, after the many Instances I have made. I have sent to them this morning, to desire an Audience of Leave, for to-morrow; which they have agreed to, tho' I believe it was what they did not expect, for all I had told them fourteen days ago, that I should be obliged to take my leave of them, in case they were not more particular in their Answers. They will yet have an opportunity to explain themselves in the Answer they will make to what I shall say to them: But that must be first debated in the Senate, and next Week is the Holy Week. I shall proceed in making my Visits to the Ministers, and as soon as my Brother (who has a high Fever) is a little better, I shall set out for *England*, from whence we want five Posts; which makes me impatient to know how your Grace does, and whether you have any further Commands for this place. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, March 28. 1698.

I Have the Honour of your Grace's of the 12th of *February*, whereby I understand that His Majesty has no thoughts of sending to the Duke of *Savoy*. I have now taken my leave, and nothing hinders me from beginning my Journey but the Indisposition of my Brother, which I hope will not be of long continuance. I send your Grace a Copy of my Speech, and also the Senate's Answer, which is full of expressions of Respect for his Majesty, and I believed them real: But any thing that is desired, tho' for their own Advantage, that is not agreeable to their old Customs, meets always with great opposition; which, at my Return, I shall inform your Grace more fully of.

of. I believe this Embassy will have this good effect, that it will make them use the King's Subjects better than they have hitherto done; and as further Applications are made, relating to the Trade, something may be obtained: but they act so cautiously as not to come to any resolution in time, which may sometimes prove very prejudicial to the State. I am glad your Grace's Health will permit you to come to Town. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of His EXCELLENCY's Speech at his Audience of Leave.

Most Serene Prince,

THE Reasonableness of my Demands, and the Assurances your Serenity hath given me of your Good-Will and Affection, made me hope I should, long before this, have received a satisfactory Answer to the Matters contained in my Memorial: but finding myself disappointed, I can no longer delay the King my Master's Commands, which are to take my leave of your Serenity, and return into His Presence. However, I must not forbear acquainting your Serenity, that it would be some mitigation of the Displeasure I have in leaving you, if I could have been the happy Instrument of obtaining redress in those matters I have proposed, and whereof the King my Master will expect an account from me. But since my ill fortune seems to deny me that pleasure, I leave it to your Serenity, to take such other methods of satisfying the King my Master, as to your great Wisdom shall seem most proper; and I shall only advertise your Serenity, that his Majesty's Concern and Affection for his Subjects will make him very desirous to know your speedy Resolution thereupon.

As to my own particular, I cannot but acknowledge with great Gratitude the many Honours and Civilities I have received, during my residence here, for which I return my most humble Thanks, and beg leave to assure your Serenity, I shall take all occasions of expressing the just sense I have of them, by promoting the Interest and Welfare of this most Serene Republick, whenever I may be so happy as to have it in my power. I do take my leave of your Serenity, and these most Excellent Lords, with adding my heartiest Wishes for the Prosperity and good Success of this most Serene Republick in all its Undertakings, and particularly in the present War it is engaged in.

The SENATE's Answer to the foregoing Speech, and the Memorial therein mentioned.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

AS soon as we received your Memorial, we were careful to get all the light and information we could about the Matters you proposed in it, which has retarded our Deliberations upon them for some time; altho' we were very desirous to dispatch them, as well to shew our constant Friendship and Respect to the King your Master, as the Regard we have for the Advantage of a Nation, so much beloved and esteemed by us.

As to the first point, relating to the *English* Seamen employed on board our Ships, you may assure yourself that no Magistrates, or other Officers of the Republick, use any sort of force, either in taking, or keeping them in the Service, but that only such as offer themselves voluntarily are received; and those are treated with all Kindness, according to the Intentions of the Republick.

As to the Liberty that is desired, for the *English* Merchants to sell their Salt-Fish to whom they please; you may likewise assure yourself, that the Republick has it under their serious Consideration, as well upon the account of the indispensable Duty we lie under of taking care to furnish this City with the

greatest plenty of those Provisions, as for the sake of the *English* Nation, and of the mutual benefit of Trade.

As to the Bail given in to the *Magistrato di Cinque Savii*, not to lade in the Gulph, and to the other points of exempting those Goods from Custom, that are designed for the Islands of the *Levant*, the ancient Laws of the Republick, and our universal Practice with all Nations, require the observance of them. However, that we may attribute all we can to the ease of the Merchants in their Traffick; we have given orders that all differences about Trade, both *active and passive*, be heard and determin'd by the abovesaid Magistrate of *Cinque Savii*. By which your Lordship may perceive our readiness to concur with you in promoting the Interests of a Nation that is so dear and acceptable to us, as far as is permitted.

There remain still two other points, of the Ships *Mary of Weymouth*, and *Samuel and Mary*, and the Cause depending before the *Avogaria di Commun* about the late Sir *William Godolphin's* Will. As to the last of which, both Parties are agreed to stay for Papers from *Spain*; and for the two Ships, it is likewise necessary to have the particular Informations from the *Levant*, where the Actions were committed; so that we can do no more at present but pray your Lordship, as we do now, to give the King, your Master, a favourable account of this our sincere Representation, and of our constant Affection and Respect for his Majesty.

My Lord Ambassador,

HAVING given our Answer to your Lordship's Memorial, formerly presented to us, we are now to return one to your Lordship's Speech, wherein you tell us you are to go back to the King your Master, after having discharged the Duties of your Noble Embassy, with singular Address and Ability. We do assure you, the Senate has a deep impression upon their minds of the great prudence which adorns you; and that the Esteem, which we have for your Person, is agreeable to your particular Merits. We are fully persuaded that, upon your return into *England*, you will bear testimony of our sincere and cordial Respect for that Crown; and assure his Majesty, we will endeavour to give him all possible proofs of a perfect good Understanding and Correspondence, according to the ancient Maxims of the Republick: for which reason we hope your Lordship will continue in the favourable disposition you have been pleased to express for our State; and so we wish you all happiness in your Journey, and hope, upon your arrival at Court, you will give an account of the great pleasure and satisfaction we have had by your welcome Embassy.

The Reader will see by this, that all that was desired in the Memorial was refused, and turned into a Compliment to the Person of the Ambassador. The *English* Galley-slaves were never mentioned, and the manner in which they enlist our Sailors quite denied. My own *Memoirs* will fully shew how this whole Affair stands.

His Excellency had, before he left *Venice*, a publick Audience of the Dogheressa, in the great Council's Room, where all the Ladies of Quality, then in *Venice*, were seated; finely dressed in Robes, or stiff-bodied Gowns. The Dogheressa had her Gold and Ermin Robes on, and her Crown on her Head. My Lord Ambassador made her his Compliments in the *Italian* Language, which he spoke very well. Before he left *Venice*, he received Letters from several of the neighbouring Princes, and chief Governors of Provinces; which being only Compliments are left out of this Work, which I would not swell to too great a bulk.

Affairs of STATE.

27

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Venice, Apr. 4. 1698.

YOUR Grace will have received my last, of the 28 *March*, which gives an account of my Audience of Leave, and I should now have been on my journey, had my Brother been better; but he still continues so ill, that I am unwilling to leave him in such a condition. I desire your Grace will make my excuses to His Majesty, and assure Him that nothing else should have hindered me from obeying His Commands. The Duke of *Moles*, Ambassador from *Spain*, has also taken his leave of this State, and will soon set out for *Madrid*, and from thence for *Portugal*, tho' some believe he will stay with the Count *de Melgar*, by whom he is much esteemed; and he is thought to understand the Affairs of *Italy* perfectly well. I hope this will find your Grace in town, and that your Health will give you leave to continue there. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Lyons, May 4. 1698.

THE concern I was under for the death of my Brother hindered me from acquainting you myself of my leaving *Venice*, &c. Mr. *Stanyan* did give you notice of it. I have had a very disagreeable Journey, and found the *Alps* full of Snow. To-morrow I set out for *Paris*, and hope to be soon in *England*, where I shall acknowledge, in person, your Grace's Kindnesses and Favours to me. I hear, in all these parts, Discourses of a new War, the King of *Spain* being not likely to live long. The Duke of *Savoy* is increasing his Forces, by adding ten Men to every Company, and a Company to every Regiment; so that then he will have about twelve Thousand Men. Several Regiments are passing by here, and it is said they are soon to encamp on the Banks of the River *Iserre*, between *Chambery* and *Valence*. The Prince of *Vaudemont* was gone from *Avignon* before I arrived there. He intended to go to *Monaco* by land. My last Letters from *London* told me, your Grace was at *Newmarket* with His Majesty. I wish that Air may contribute to your Health. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 13. 1698. N. S.

I Wrote to your Grace from *Lyons*. I am now come to this place, where my stay will not be above ten Days. I expect only to hear of the Arrival of a Yacht at *Calais*. I beg your Grace would desire His Majesty to order me one, if it be not already done. I hope to find your Grace in town at my Arrival there, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of SHREWSBURY.

My Lord,

London, May 23. 1698.

I Came to town last Friday, and have waited on His Majesty, who seemed well satisfied with the Accounts I gave him of my Proceedings, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Grafton, May 25. 1698.

I Give you this trouble to congratulate your safe Arrival in *England*, and at the same time to ask your pardon for the negligent manner with which I have corresponded with you: but having been in a circumstance of Health that permitted me neither to be serviceable to the King, nor any ways useful to your Lordship, I apprehended my Letters were rather troublesome than respectful, if they came too often. I hope therefore you will attribute my silence to the true Cause, and believe that I am with reality, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Grafton, June 4. 1698.

BEFORE I returned an Answer to your last Letter, I was willing to enquire whether his Majesty had any intentions of sending a Person to reside at *Venice*; and being now assured, that for the present, He has no such thoughts, I thought fit to acquaint you with it, and at the same time to assure you that I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.





MEMOIRS

OF

Affairs of State.

EUROPE continued, for some time after the Peace of *Ryswick*, in a state of seeming Tranquillity : but as the Health of the King of *Spain* declined very fast, it was with great reason apprehended, that he would soon die without Children. For this Reason the *French* King kept up a very considerable Army, and made all the necessary Preparations for the sending out great numbers of Men of War and Gallies, as soon as he should have occasion for them. The King of *England*, who saw this, and knew the Intentions and the Pretensions of *France*, knew also that this Nation would be very averse to a War, which could not be carried on without many new Taxes and Impositions; and he saw himself and all *Europe* in danger, without any other Troops or Alliances than that of the *Dutch*. He could not engage for any Succours to the Princes in Alliance with him, and was very much disgusted with the Emperor, who had obstructed the Peace of *Ryswick* (as much as he could) and who, in a manner, openly laid claim to the whole Monarchy of *Spain*, which he hoped to join to his other Dominions. All our Troops were, in those very dark and dangerous Times, reduced to Seven Thousand Men. Many Members had declared in Parliament, that they thought this too great a number, while others would have kept up a far greater Force for one Year longer. But when His Majesty came to the House of Lords to pass that memorable Bill for disbanding the Troops, he made use of the following Words; “ *I came to pass the Bill for disbanding the Army, as soon as I understood it was ready for me; tho’ in our present Circumstances there appears a great hazard in breaking such a number of the Troops.*” Thus was the *French* King left in a condition to execute almost any thing; it was in his power to take possession of all the Monarchy of *Spain*, in the various Parts of the World, before any body but the Emperor, whom he feared but little, could oppose him. The Party of the late King *James* conceived also new Hopes. The *States-General* were full of Apprehensions, and averse to a new War; which they however thought unavoidable, if the King of *Spain* should die without Children, unless some new Treaty could prevent it. They knew that the House of *Bourbon* was an overgrown Power already; and that if they should join with the Emperor, they would be in danger from *France*; and the Money, necessary for the carrying on such a War, could be found nowhere but in *England* and *Holland*. Besides this, if the Emperor should succeed in his Aims, they might be in danger from him, in greater danger than even

even from *France* itself, without a Barrier against him, &c. Whilst all *Europe* was thus unsettled, or rather in this state of Confusion, King *William* wrote the following Letter to his Chancellor the Lord *Somers* with His own Hand.

Loo, August 15. 1698.

I Imparted to you before I left *England*, that in *F.* there was express'd to my Lord *P.* some Insinuation to come to an Agreement with us, concerning the Succession of the King of *Sp.* Since which *C. Tall.* has mentioned it to me, and has made Propositions, the Particulars of which my Lord *P.* will write to *Vernon*, to whom I have given orders not to communicate them to any other besides yourself, and to leave to your Judgment, whom else you would think proper to impart them; to the end that I might know your Opinion upon so important an Affair, and which requires the greatest Secrecy. If it be fit this Negotiation should be carried on, there's no time to be lost, and you must send me the full Powers under the Great Seal, with the Names in blank, to treat with *C. Tall.* I believe this may be done secretly, that none but you and *Vernon*, and those, to whom you shall have communicated it, may have knowledge of it; so that the Clerks, who are to write the Warrant, and the full Powers, may not know what it is. According to all Intelligence the K. of *S.* can't outlive the Month of *October*, and the least Accident may carry him off every day. I received your Letter of the 9th. Since my Lord *Wharton* can't at this time leave *England*, I must think of some other to send Ambassador into *Sp.* If you can think of any one proper, let Me know it, and be always assured of my Friendship.

W. R.

The ANSWER.

Tunbridge-Wells, 28 Aug. 1698.

HAVING Your Majesty's Permission to try if the Waters would contribute to the Re-establishment of my Health, I was just got to this Place when I had the Honour of Your Commands. I thought the best way of executing them would be to communicate to my Lord *Orf.* Mr. *Mount.* and the D. of *Shrew.* (who before I left *London* had agreed upon a Meeting about that time) the Subject of my L. *P.* Letters, at the same time letting them know how strictly Your Majesty required that it should remain an inviolable Secret.

Since then, Mr. *M.* and Mr. Secretary are come down hither, and upon their whole Discourse three things have principally occur'd, and are humbly suggested to Your Majesty.

1. That the entertaining a Proposal of this nature seems to be attended with very many ill Consequences, if the *F.* did not act a sincere part. But we were soon at ease as to any Apprehension of this sort, being fully assured Your Majesty would not act but with the utmost nicety in an Affair, wherein the Glory and the Safety of *Europe* was so highly concerned.

The second thing considered, was the very ill Prospect of what was like to happen upon the Death of the K. of *Sp.* in case nothing was done previously, towards the providing against that Accident, which seemed probably to be very near, the K. of *F.* having so great a Force in such a Readiness, that he was in a condition to take possession of *Spain* before any other Prince could be ready to make a stand. Your Majesty is the best Judge, whether this be the Case, who are so perfectly inform'd of the Circumstances of Parts abroad. But so far as relates to *England*, it would be want of Duty not to give Your Majesty this clear Account, that there is a Deadness and Want of Spirit in the Nation universally, so as not at all to be disposed to the thought of entering into a new War, and that they seemed to be tired out with Taxes to a degree beyond what was discerned, 'till it appeared upon the Occasion

of the late Elections. This is the Truth of the Fact, upon which Your Majesty will determine what Resolutions are proper to be taken.

That which remained was, the Consideration what would be the Condition of *Europe*, if the Proposal took place: of this we thought our selves little capable of judging, but it seemed that if *Sicily* was in the hands of the *F.* they would be entirely Masters of the *Levant* Trade; that if they were possessed of *Final*, and those Ports on that side, whereby *Milan* would be entirely shut out from Relief, or any other Commerce, that Dutchy would be of little Signification in the hands of any Prince; and that if the *K. of F.* had possession of any part of *Guipescia*, which is mentioned in the Proposal, besides the Ports he would have in the Ocean, it does seem he would have as easy a way of invading *S.* on that side, as he now has on the side of *Catalonia*. But it is not to be hoped, that *F.* will quit its pretences to so great a Succession without considerable Advantages, and we are all assured Your Majesty will reduce the Terms as low as can be done, and make them, as far as is possible in the present Circumstances of things, such as may be some Foundation of the future Quiet of the Kingdom, which all Your Subjects cannot but be convinced is Your true Aim. If it could be brought to pass that *England* might be some way a Gainer by this Transaction, whether it was by the Elector of *Bavaria* (who is the Gainer by Your Majesty's Interposition in this Treaty) his coming to an Agreement to let us have some Trade to the *Spanish* Plantations, or in any other manner, it would wonderfully endear Your Majesty to Your *English* Subjects.

It does not appear, in case this Negotiation should proceed, what is to be done on Your part, in order to make it take place; whether any more be required than that the *English* and *Dutch* sit still, and *F.* itself is to see it executed; and if that be so, what Security ought to be expected, that if by our being neuter the *French* be successful, they will confine themselves to the Terms of the Treaty, and not attempt to make further Advantages of their Success.

I have put the Seal to the Commission, without expecting the return of the Warrant; the Commission is wrote by Mr. Secretary, and no Creature has the least Knowledge of any thing, besides the Persons already named. I pray God give Your Majesty Honour and Success in all Your Undertakings.

I am with the utmost Duty and Respect, Sir, Your Majesty's most dutiful and most obedient Subject and Servant,

SOMERS.

Soon after this a Negotiation was entered upon, and a Treaty of Partition, now called *the first Treaty of Partition*, was signed at the *Hague* on the 11th of *October* 1689. N. S. by the Earl of *Portland* and Sir *Joseph Williamson*, on the part of *England*, Count *Tallard* on the part of *France*, and by eight Plenipotentiaries of the States-General. I shall say no more of the Treaty, because it is in print, and in every body's hands. The Treaty did not last long, and Prince *Ferdinand* of *Bavaria*, who by this Treaty was to have been King of *Spain*, died at *Brussels* in *February* following.

My Lord *Portland* began soon after this to treat about a new Partition-Treaty, in favour of the Arch-Duke *Charles*; and the King sent the Earl of *Jersey* into *France*, with Instructions to negotiate this second Treaty of Partition. His Excellency made his Publick Entry into *Paris* on the 4th of *January* 1699. N. S. but he was soon after recalled, and the Earl of *Manchester* was appointed to succeed him. That Earl's Instructions were in the following Words.

In-

WILLIAM R.

Instructions for our Right Trusty, and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor Charles Earl of Manchester, whom We have appointed Our Ambassador Extraordinary to Our Good Brother the most Christian King. Given at our Court at Kensington, the 30th Day of May 1699, in the Eleventh Year of our Reign.

HAVING received these Instructions with your Letters of Credence, you shall with all convenient speed repair to *Paris*, or such other Place, where the most Christian King shall keep his Court; and as soon as you are ready for it, you shall ask an Audience in Our Name; at which, having delivered your Credentials, you shall declare to him the great Satisfaction We have in seeing the War, which has affected *Europe* for so many Years, brought to an end, and Our earnest Desire that the Peace may be durable and lasting. You shall more particularly acquaint him with the Value and Esteem We have for his Person and Friendship, and how ready We shall always be to preserve and cultivate the good Correspondence so happily renewed between Us and our Dominions.

You shall likewise desire Audience of the *Dauphin*, and deliver him Our Letter, accompanying the same with a suitable Compliment, which you shall likewise make, in Our Name, to the rest of the Princes of the Blood, according to the Stile and Practice of that Court; taking care at your Audiences, and on all other Occasions, to maintain Our Dignity, and that you be treated with all the Honours and Respects that are given to the Extraordinary Ambassadors of *Spain* and other Crowned Heads.

You shall carefully observe the Motions and Intentions of that Court, with respect to any Design they may have against Us or our Dominions, as well as against any other of their Neighbours. You shall observe their Inclinations in relation to the present State of Affairs abroad, whether they are entering into any Leagues or Engagements with other Princes; especially such as may be prejudicial to the Peace, which is so happily established in Christendom.

You shall entertain a good Correspondence and Intercourse with the Ambassadors and Ministers of all Princes and States in Amity with Us, residing at the *French* Court, and particularly with those of the States-General of the United Provinces.

You shall on all Occasions protect and countenance our Merchants, trading to any of the Territories of the most Christian King; and use your endeavours to obtain Relief for them upon any just Complaints they shall make to you, and to procure them Restitution of such Privileges and Immunities as they formerly enjoyed.

Whereas Our Royal Uncle King *Charles* the Second did, by Order in Council, bearing date the 26th Day of *August* 1668, direct his Ambassadors not to give the hand in their own Houses to Envoys, in pursuance of what was practised by Ambassadors of other Princes; and the same having been ever since observed, We think fit to repeat this Direction to you, not to give the hand to any Envoy in your own House.

Of all Matters you shall be informed of, during your Embassy, which may be of Consequence, and worthy Our Knowledge, you shall constantly give an account to Us by one of Our Principal Secretaries of State; from whom you will receive such further Instructions and Directions, as We shall think fit to send you, which you are to observe accordingly.

At your Return from your Embassy, We shall expect from you a particular Account and Narrative of what hath happened remarkable in that Court, during your Continuance there, with relation to the Abilities and Affections of the *French* Ministers, their Interests, mutual Correspondencies, and Differences one with another; their Inclinations to Foreign Princes and States, together with all such other Observations, as you shall be able to make, which

may contribute to inform us of the present Condition of that Government and Kingdom.

W. R.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 17. 1699.

I Have received his Majesty's Commands to recommend to your Lordship the Memorial of the Prince *de Vaudemont*, concerning the Disturbance that is given him by the Ministers of *Lorain*, about the Possession of the Counties of *Bitche*, *Sar Werden*, and *Bouquenom*, that your Lordship may employ your Offices at the *French* Court, in behalf of the said Prince *de Vaudemont*, as you shall judge proper.

I am likewise to put into your Lordship's Hands a Petition of my Lady *Russel*, concerning her Pretensions to the Estate of the late Marquis *de Ru-vigny* her Uncle; the Memorial of Sir *William Douglas*, the Petition of M. *Le Bas* Marechal of the Ceremonies, and the Case of Mrs. *Mary Cardins*; who all pray to be restored to their Estates in *France*, as is more fully contained in the Papers herewith delivered to your Lordship. And I am commanded to signify to your Lordship, that it is His Majesty's Pleasure that you make such Instances to the Ministers of the Court of *France*, upon the several Matters, as to your Lordship shall appear most fitting, in order to obtain Satisfaction to the Persons complaining, according to the Justice and Equity of their respective Concerns. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, August 8. 1699. N. S.

I Can now acquaint your Lordship that I arrived here the 5th, and the next Day I sent a Compliment to * *Monf. Saintot*, who immediately waited on me, and gave me to understand that *Monf. de Torcy* was expected in town. Mr. *Prior* writ to him, and he appointed the Afternoon to see me. Your Lordship knows the usual Ceremonies on such Occasions. He seemed extremely civil, and let me know that the King did not return to *Versailles* 'till Thursday next, and that then I should have an Audience of him. The Ambassador of *Savoy* was to wait on me, and this Day I shall return his Visit. I am obliged to your Lordship for letting me have your House, which I like extremely, tho' my Equipage not being come from *Rouen*, puts me under some Difficulties: but with the help of Mr. *Prior* all things are made easy. He has delivered your Lordship's Letter to *Monf. de Torcy*, and he took notice to me how well Mr. *Prior* has behaved himself during his stay here. I have just now received yours of the 24th of *July*, and I shall take care to do what I can in the Matter. I have nothing more to trouble your Lordship with, and am only to assure you that all your Commands will be received by me with great Satisfaction, and punctually observed, being, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 12. 1699.

I Have received a Message from *Monf. de Torcy* to let me know that the King has appointed Sunday next for my private Audience, and I suppose at the same time I shall have Audiences of the rest of the Court, which I am now settling with *Monf. de Saintot*. I have taken care to get the best Informations of all that passes here, which your Lordship shall be acquainted with from time to time. Mr. *Stanyan* † will send you what publick News there is. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

K

To

* Monsieur Saintot was Master of the Ceremonies.

† Secretary to the Embassy.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 15. 1699.

I Am now entring upon a troublesome part of my Business, the King having appointed to-morrow for an Audience at *Versailles*. I cannot tell whether Monsieur and Madame will be there. Mr. *Prior* intends to set out for *Loo*, as soon as these Audiences are over, &c. I begin to be sensible of what your Lordship told me, viz. how great an Expence I must be at: but that shall not discourage me in doing what is for his Majesty's Honour. I have considered of what my Lord *Feverham* desires of me, and I do find it not proper to mention it at my first Audience. I should be glad to know if he would have me take notice of it to Monf. *de Torcy*, before I have another Opportunity of speaking to the King. I will not fail writing to your Lordship by every Post, tho' I believe the Court will be either at *Marly* or *Fontainebleau*, so that I shall not get an Opportunity of seeing Monf. *de Torcy*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 17. 1699.

SINCE my Letter, wherein I acquainted you of my Arrival here, I have had nothing worth troubling you with till now, that I am to tell you I had yesterday my private Audience of this King, when I assured him of the great Esteem the King my Master has for his Person, and of his firm Resolution to preserve the Peace and good Correspondence, established between the two Crowns. Then for myself I declared the profound Respect I had for his Majesty, and that I should second the King my Master's good Intentions, for preserving and increasing such an Understanding, by doing all the good Offices that might contribute thereto, whilst I had the Honour to reside here. To this the King answered in general Terms, that He always had, and should continue to have, a great Esteem for the King my Master, that he would seek all Opportunities of strengthening the good Correspondence established between them for their mutual Interest, and that I should be a Witness of it, whilst I staid here. He was pleased to declare that I was agreeable to him, that he would always give me access to his Person, and favourably hear any Matters I had to propose from the King my Master. After this I waited on the three young Princes; first on the Duke of *Burgundy* by himself, to whom I made a Compliment in general Terms from the King, as afterwards I did the same to the Dukes of *Anjou* and *Berry*: their Answer was only, that they desired me to return their humble Thanks to his Majesty for the Assurances of his Friendship, which they valued very much.

The *Dauphin* was at *Meudon*, and the Dutchess of *Burgundy* indisposed; so that I cannot see them till Tuesday. But the Duke and Dutchess of *Orleans*, and the rest of that Family, have appointed me this Afternoon at *St. Clou*. Mr. *Stanyan* will send you from time to time what publick Occurrences we have. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 19. 1699.

I Am now to acquaint your Lordship that all my Private Audiences are over, except that of the *Dauphin* and the Dutchess *de Chartres*, which I am to have to-morrow Morning at *Meudon*. On Sunday Morning last I waited on the King, &c. [Here he repeated what is in the foregoing Letter.]

Then

Then I would have visited all the Ministers, but could meet only with M. *de Barbesieux*, and Monf. *de Torcy*; the Duke *de Beauvilliers*, and Monf. *de Ponchartrain* being at Council. The next Day at four in the Afternoon being appointed to wait on the Duke and Dutcheſs of *Orleans* at *St. Clou*; I went accordingly, and had Audiences of them both, and alſo of the Duke *de Chartres*, but his Dutcheſs was abſent. On Tueſday I went to the King's Levee at *Versailles*, and afterwards had my Audience of the Dutcheſs of *Burgundy*. I do but juſt mention theſe Ceremonies, becauſe your Lordſhip is ſo well acquainted with them, that I need not be more particular. I ſpoke that Day to Monf. *de Torcy* about ſeveral Matters, as your Lordſhip will ſee by the incloſed Paper. I fear I ſhall do but little, eſpecially in Matters that relate to the *French* Refugees, whatever Promiſes have been made to my Lord *Portland*, and to your Lordſhip; as you may perceive by the Answer of Monf. *de la Forest*, and Monf. *Scheus*. However, I ſhall not fail to preſs the Diſpatch of ſuch Matters as are committed to my Care, whatever the Succeſs may be. Mr. *Prior* will leave this Place on Monday next. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, Aug. 14 1699.

I Have received the Honour of your Lordſhip's Letter of the 7th inſtant, and acquainted his Maſteſty with your Arrival at *Paris*, and the time when your Lordſhip is like to have a private Audience at *Versailles*. I have not much news to return Mr. *Stanyan* for what I received from him: but I have in command from His Maſteſty to ſignify His Pleaſure to your Lordſhip; that as my Lord *Jerſey* had Orders to aſſiſt the Prince of *Vaudemont*, during his Embaſſy, in all his Affairs in the Court of *France*, ſo your Lordſhip is to do the like; and upon Application to be made to your Lordſhip, by the Prince himſelf, or his Agents, your Lordſhip is in His Maſteſty's Name, and in the beſt manner, to ſupport his Interests and Pretensions at that Court. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Aug. 19. 1699.

I Have received the favour of your Lordſhip's Letter of the 13th. I ſuppoſe by this time all your private Audiences are over. Since your Lordſhip did not think it proper to mention in your firſt Audience the Concern of Mademoiſelle *Malauſe*, I hope you will ſpeak to his Maſteſty about it, before he goes to *Fontainebleau*. Monf. *de Torcy* being to procure you this Audience, my Lord *Feverſham* is willing that your Lordſhip acquaints him with the Buſineſs, but not 'till juſt before you have your Audience; for if you ſhould ſpeak to him about Mademoiſelle *Malauſe*, before he has fixed you an Audience, perhaps he will put off your ſeeing the King, by undertaking to give you an Answer to the Buſineſs, which we have found already will not be very favourable. Your Lordſhip will receive this by a Courier ſent to Monf. *Heemſkerk* * with the Ratification of the Treaty for the Buſineſs of *Orange*. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 22. 1699.

I Had the honour of your Lordſhip's of the 13th inſtant, and now I can only acquaint you that I had my Audience of the *Dauphin* on Thurſday laſt. I have endeavoured to wait on Monf. *de Ponchartrain*, but have not as yet ſeen

* Ambaſſador from the States-General.

seen him. I find they are here very desirous to know whether I intend to go to *Fontainebleau*. I tell them I have such Thoughts; but I do not as yet see it will be proper for me, especially if the Court of *St. Germain* should continue there, unless I should receive Orders from your Lordship that require dispatch. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 24. 1699.

I Had the favour of yours of the $\frac{4}{11}$, and shall take care to support Prince *Vaudemont's* Interest, whenever an Application is made to me. I had received the same Instructions from my Lord *Jersey*, before I left *England*, with a state of the Case. The King continues at *Marly* till Saturday next, and then he will make a short stay at *Versailles* before he goes to *Fontainebleau*. I have made all my Visits to the Ministers; *Monf. de Ponchartrain* was very obliging, and he is the Minister that has most credit here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Aug. 14. 1699. O.S.

I Have received the favour of your Lordship's Letter of the $\frac{2}{3}$ of this Month, with the inclosed Paper, containing Heads of Matters, about which your Lordship had spoke to *Monf. Torcy*, and his Answers to them. I can at present say nothing to your Lordship upon these several Particulars, except that only which relates to the Exchange, the *French* propose for *Macdonnel*, about whom I will cause enquiry to be made; and in the mean time desire your Lordship will keep this matter on foot, that in case he be a fit Person to be exchanged, we may have *Pierre Peraut* in his stead.

A Memorial being put into my hands concerning the Privileges granted to the *Scotch* in *France*, I send the same to your Lordship, that you may please to inform yourself of their Case, and hear what *Mr. Flemming* (in case he comes to your Lordship) has further to say about it. But your Lordship will not take any notice thereof to the *French* Ministers, till such time as you have further notice from hence. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 26. 1699.

I Shall not fail to obey your Lordship's Orders in relation to *Mademoiselle Malause*, and I do intend to write to *Monf. de Torcy* on Monday, to procure me an Audience for the next Morning; which I suppose he'll do, since I intend only then to acquaint him, that otherwise I shall not have an Opportunity of speaking to the King before he goes to *Fontainebleau*. I cannot think the King will grant it at first, and then we shall not be much the better for having asked it of the King. I assure your Lordship, I shall not be wanting to press it as far as I can, and I hope Lord *Feversham* will believe so. I should have done it at my first Audience, had it happened conveniently. I have little hopes of doing any thing more for *Cowper*, which was also your Lordship's Opinion, when I had the honour to discourse with you about it in *England*: yet I intend to press it again, for now *Mr. Marillac's* Answer is, that he can do no more in it, which I intend to let *Monf. Torcy* know; for he told me he was the proper Person to apply to, and would consider the Case. The Messenger your Lordship sent, I intend shall

shall stay here till I can inform myself of something worth your notice, unless I receive your Orders to the contrary. I am,

Here is a report of the Queen Dowager's Death, but it wants confirmation.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, August 25. 1699.

I Have laid before the King your Lordship's Letter of the 17th Instant, whereby his Majesty has been made acquainted with the private Audiences your Lordship has had at the Court of *France*, and the Compliments on both sides, with which His Majesty is well pleased.

I have more than once troubled your Excellency with Complaints of Hardships sustained by His Majesty's Subjects in *France*, upon account of their being Protestants. But His Majesty has commanded me at present to inform your Lordship of a very great violence offer'd to an *English* Ship at Sea, coming from a foreign part, which has been attack'd by one of *France*, and the Passengers taken out, contrary to the Treaties between the two Crowns for the freedom of Trade and Navigation, and the Law of Nations. I need not further open this matter to your Lordship, but refer you to the inclosed Papers, upon which your Lordship is to form a Complaint, and to present a Memorial to the *French* Court. Mr. *Prior* will have put into your Lordship's hands the Business of Messieurs *de la Forest* and *de Scheus*, wherein your Lordship's good Offices will be wanting, according to the Directions already given. I am,

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Madrid, Aug. 27. 1699.

I Congratulate with your Excellency your happy Arrival at *Paris*, and with myself on the honour of receiving so early notice by the favour of your Letter of the 9th instant. A Paper sent me this Evening from *Don Antonio de Ubilla*, Secretary of the *Dispatcho Universal*, a Copy of which goes inclosed, gives me an unexpected opportunity of beginning my Correspondence with an Office that concerns, or, by the contents, is supposed to concern your Excellency's Negotiations in that Court. I humbly beg pardon for not translating it either into *English* or *French*; for I received it so late, that all I have time to do, is to get one Copy made for your Excellency, and another for Mr. *Blathwayt*, to whom I also send it this night. His Catholick Majesty has had no new Accident now in above a month, but in reality he is extremely weak. The Duke of *Uceda*, late Vice-King of *Sicily*, was last Night declared Ambassador for *Rome*, and the Almirante has leave to return to Court whenever he pleases, so is expected here after the great Heats are over, which are more excessive than I had felt them in my ten years being in this Country. I will not fail to inform your Excellency punctually of all that may be worth your Knowledge here, and am,

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

Copy of the Paper above mentioned, translated out of Spanish.

DON *Antonio de Ubilla* kisses the hands of Don *Alexander Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of his *Britannick* Majesty, and lets him know, that the King his Master having been frequently informed by his Ministers in the North, of the strong Informations, and even evident Proofs, which they have by different Advices and Accidents, that the *English*, *Hollanders*, and the *French*, in consequence of what was last year concluded and stipulated at

L

Loo,

Loo, are now again forming new Treaties for the Succession to this Crown, and for the dividing of it; which notices have been corroborated by other ways, so that they are publick over all *Europe*: it would be against his Dignity to dissemble and take no notice of them. The King his Master thinks it inexcusable not to oppose what might produce such irreparable Inconveniencēs, if it came to be put in execution; and has ordered his Ministers in the Courts of *France*, *England*, and *Holland*, to make known to those Princes and Governments, the just Sentiments his Majesty has of those Advices, never heard of before in the Life of any King, and more improper in that of his Majesty, which consisting at present (by the Divine Mercy, and for our Happiness) in only thirty eight years of Age, we may naturally promise ourselves, and especially from his most high Providence, that he may give his Majesty the important Succession which we hope for from him, by the affectionate Prayers and Votes of his Vassals; it causing a just wonder and grief, that they doubt before hand of so great a possibility, by reason of any opinions taken up from the slight Complaints, and the Affliction of his Kingdoms and Subjects, and the impressions that seem to disturb the general Tranquillity which we now enjoy: when, on the other hand, it is not to be believed from the righteous and pious Mind of His Majesty, that he lives so unmindful of his Obligation, and values so little the Love and Security of his Vassals, that if God (by his occult and sovereign Judgments) would chastise us, by taking away his Life, (which we hope he will not suffer) without granting him the benefit of a Succession, his Affairs will not be left without a due reflection on what is most just, and most important for the publick Tranquillity, and so that no body shall be able to find fault with his Justice nor his Foresight. For which Reasons, His Majesty has ordered His aforesaid Ministers to make instances and use their diligence to cut off those Negotiations; weighing the ill effects which they now produce, and what their continuance may produce. And that the Complaint of His Majesty, and the Orders he gives to his Ministers abroad to notify to the Princes at whose Courts they reside, be at the same time made publick; he has lately ordered that it be made known to the Ministers here: For this Reason does Don *Antonio de Ubilla* communicate it to Don *Alexander Stanhope*, by order of his Master, that he may also give notice to his *Britannick Majesty*, assisting with his prudent Representations this just and honest Purpose; that so the universal Quiet may be maintain'd, and that he may quit the scandal of this Negotiation, which is feared will be an unhappy Motive of kindling a voracious Flame of a new War; which being once lighted, will be difficult to be extinguished, either by the greatest Force, or the most dextrous and most powerful Mediation: and he remains obedient to Don *Alexander Stanhope* with all Affection.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 29. 1699.

THE Report of the Queen Dowager's death was occasion'd by the news of the death of the Queen of *Portugal*, which this Court has already notice of, and they are to begin the Mourning at *Fontainebleau*, where the King goes next *Thursday*. I believe the Duke of *Schomberg* will apply to your Lordship in relation to his Affairs. I have done what was proper, having recommended it to the Ministers. But now the dispute lies between the eldest Brother in *Germany* and himself, who has obtained a Sentence to have two Thirds, according to the Custom of *France*. They do intend to appeal from this Sentence: but as this is a Matter between two Brothers, I should be glad to know whether the King does only concern himself for the Duke of *Schomberg*. There is no great haste, for nothing can be done till the King returns to *Versailles*. I trouble your Lordship also with an Extract of a Letter I have wrote to Mr. *Blathwayt*. In case I do not receive any orders

Orders from *Loo*, I desire your Lordship will let me know how I may act in this matter. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 31. 1699.

I N my last I gave you an account of some Discourse I had with the *Dutch* Ambassador about *Brisac*, upon a Motion the Emperor's Envoy here made to him; and since I understand by him, that the Envoy had two Days ago a Conference with *Monf. de Pomponne* upon the same Subject, and he gave him all possible Assurances that this King has no sinister Design in detaining that Place in his hands, and for a further Confirmation of it promised, that Orders should be dispatched the next day to *Monf. d'Uxelles*, to suffer the Emperor's Engineers to help them to remove the Piles out of the River, and likewise to reward them well for their pains. The Emperor's Minister seems well enough satisfied for the present with this Answer, so there is no Occasion that either of us should stir in the Matter as yet. However, I desire you would let me know how far His Majesty would have me concern myself in it, in case this Court should delay sending any such Orders to *Monf. d'Uxelles*, or that the Emperor's Minister should again solicit us to join with him in a Solicitation to this Court. Mr. *Stanyan* has communicated to me yours of the 21st instant, signifying His Majesty's Pleasure that I should apply to this Court, by such ways as I should think most proper, in the Behalf of *James Martin* and *William Fleming*, the former whereof is imprison'd at *Rochelle*, and three Daughters of the latter are put into Convents, upon the account of their Religion, contrary to the Privileges granted by the *French* King's Predecessors to the *Scotch* Nation, from whence they are descended. As to this, I can only say at present, that I received at the same time some Memorials from my Lord *Jersey*, relating to that Affair, with Directions not to stir in it, 'till I had received more full Informations about the Nature of the Privileges claimed by the *Scots* from Mr. *Fleming*; and as soon as I have them, you may be sure I shall not be wanting to make all due Application for the Relief of the Persons injur'd, in obedience to His Majesty's Commands.

I intend this Afternoon to make my Compliments to the Duke and Dutches of *Orleans*, upon the Birth of the young Prince of *Lorain*, their Grandson, as most of the Foreign Ministers here have already done; and I desire to know whether his Majesty would have me make them likewise in His Name, in Case he should receive Notification thereof; which you will be pleas'd to send me word of by the first Opportunity. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 2. 1699.

I Did observe your Lordship's Directions, and had an Audience fixed before I spoke to *Monf. de Torcy*; tho' when I acquainted him with the nature of what I was to say, I found little hopes of Success. He would have had me delay it for some time, and 'till I had informed myself how much the Pretensions of *Madamoiselle Malause* amounted to; which I declined, saying, that what I was to ask of his Majesty was a favour, and in such a Case the Sum was not to be considered. Accordingly I had my Audience, and I must say the King expressed himself in all the obliging Terms that could be used in a Refusal. He said he was extremely troubled, whenever the King of *England* asked any thing that he could not grant, and that he hoped that he should not be put upon those Difficulties for the future. I did argue the Case as much as it was proper, letting him know that the King had that Consideration for her and the Family, that he hoped his Majesty would oblige him

him in it, and distinguish her, she having had leave to go out of *France*; pressing this as far as was possible. He was pleased to answer, that he knew very well all that could be said upon this Subject, that he had made a Rule, which he could not but observe; that if he granted it, he must take from one to give to the other, and that he thought it the better way was not to amuse me with Hopes, since his Resolution was never to grant any thing of this nature: but that he hoped the King would be convinced of his Readiness to comply with him in Matters of greater Consequence. I hope my Lord *Feverham* will believe I have done all I could out of Respect for Him, tho' it is not an agreeable Subject to speak to, when one is morally satisfied to be denied. I must desire your Lordship will be so kind as to prevent, as much as you can, any Demands in relation to *French* Refugees; for I am confident they design to weary us out at last by their Refusals, and that it is not, in my poor Opinion, much for the King's Honour. I intend to press the Case of Messieurs *de la Forest* and *Scheus*, it being, as I take it, already granted, tho' I believe they will at last evade it. I was to make my Compliments on Monday last to *Monsieur* and *Madame*, on the Birth of the young Prince of *Lorain*; and I suppose, when it shall be notified, I shall receive Orders to do it as from his Majesty. As I was going up the Stairs to *Monsieur's* Apartment, a Gentleman came to let me know that King *James* and his Queen were there. I was resolved not to go away, and so took this occasion of seeing the Garden. When I waited on *Monsieur*, he took notice of it very civilly, and told me I had like to have met good Company, and that they had much Discourse about me, that his Brother-in-Law (as he call'd him) said he knew me very well. They were standing near the Window when my Coach came into the Court, which I imagine was the Occasion of this Discourse. I do hear the late King intends to make a short stay at *Fontainebleau*, so that I cannot well avoid going thither, this Court staying 'till the 23d of next Month. I should be glad to know your Lordship's Opinion, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Stockholm, Aug. 23. 1699. O. S.

I Am honoured with a Letter from your Excellency, which acquaints me with your Arrival at *Paris*; and I do accordingly return my humble Thanks to your Excellency, with my hearty Wishes, that your Excellency may meet with all desirable Success in your Negotiation, and the Conduct of his Majesty's Affairs at that Court. If any Information from hence may contribute to that end, I shall think my self very happy, as hoping thereby to recommend myself to your Lordship's favourable Opinion.

Your Excellency knows already, from other hands, the Misunderstandings arisen in these Parts, on account of the Disputes between the King of *Denmark* and Duke of *Holstein*; which having been several Years under a fruitless Mediation, the Duke has prevailed with the King to help him to his Rights (as supposed) a shorter way. This has occasion'd the March of some *Swedish* Troops into that Dutchy, to fortify the Avenues of the only strong Place the Duke has in it; and this King is very much set upon supporting that Enterprize, as it is thought *Denmark* will be in disappointing it. His Majesty and the States-General have with much Vigour interpos'd their Offices, concerning the Tranquillity of the North, and there is good Hopes their Endeavours may succeed; but their Minds on both sides are so imbitter'd, that it will, I think, be a Matter of no small Difficulty to keep them very long from falling out. Many imagine the Court, where your Excellency is, has no little part in these Affairs; but I am persuaded it is not on this side, having not discover'd any Tendency towards such a Concert, or that there is more than a common Friendship between yours and this Court; nor does the

Count

Count de *Guiscard* seem to have any thing of that nature to negotiate; tho' probably he may in time, especially if things come to extremity.

What we have to do with this Crown, has been a good while transacting at the *Hague*, but without any Conclusion hitherto, tho' there is Reason to expect a good one, and such as the Interests of both Parties seem to call for; which I much wish, as I do also to have the Honour of being accounted my Lord, your Excellency's, &c.

J. ROBINSON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Aug. 24. 1699. O. S.

I Have received the favour of your Lordship's Letters of the $\frac{1}{12}$ and $\frac{1}{10}$ of this Month. I find your Lordship had desired an Audience of the *French* King, and intended to speak to him about Mademoiselle *Malause*, and by your next I may expect to hear what Success you have had. I am of your Lordship's Opinion that the Duke of *Schomberg*'s Business requires no great Haste, and that nothing can be done in it 'till the King's Return.

I do not wonder that the Emperor's Minister presses the Court of *France* about the Restitution of *Brisac*, and as you have writ to Mr. *Blathwayt* about it, so I make no doubt but you will receive from him His Majesty Directions how you are to govern yourself in this Affair.

The Merchants concerned in the *Dantziker*-Ships, taken by *Du Bart*, have delivered to me the inclosed Papers, which are sufficient Proofs of the Goods that were laden on board these Ships on their Account. Their Case is very hard, and it seems very strange, that the *French* Court should not all this while have done them justice. You will press Monf. *Torcy* in the Matter, and give in a Memorial, if you find it necessary, to represent the great Injury and Damage they have suffered, and to demand that reparation be made them without further Delay. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 5. 1699.

I Send your Lordship inclosed a Paper, containing the Heads of the Matters I spoke to Monf. *Torcy* about yesterday, with his Answers to them, by which your Lordship will see this Court continues still as dilatory in their Proceedings with us, as when you were here. The first Articles are matters your Lordship is well acquainted with, having yourself begun them here; and as to the remaining two, I shall acquaint you of it: only I would first observe to your Lordship, that Monf. *Torcy* will not be brought to own that he knows any thing of *Arnold's* Imprisonment, tho' I press the Matter very earnestly: but he still promises to enquire about it, and to give me an account. These Delays make me jealous that he does not care to enter into the Reasons of his Imprisonment, which will make me the more eager to know his Pretences for it.

As to the fifth Article, about the Seamen of the Ship call'd the *Fortune* of *Dublin*, I received lately from Mr. *Blathwayt* a Petition in their Behalf (a Copy whereof I send inclosed) with His Majesty's Directions only to solicit their Discharge. Your Lordship will see the State of their Case in the Petition, and Monf. *Torcy's* Answer upon it in the Paper of Heads. So that I have nothing further to say to your Lordship at present upon the Matter, but only that I shall renew my Applications, in case I do not find they are set at liberty in a short time.

As to the sixth Article about *Sadler* the *English* Engraver here; I find in the Register that your Lordship formerly presented a Memorial upon the same Account, which put a stop (as the Man tells me) to their Proceedings against him

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him for some time: but they having given him lately fresh Disturbances upon the same Pretence, and threatned to seize his Goods in five Days time, in case he did not comply with their Demands within that Term; I interposed in his Behalf: but could only obtain, that he should have leave to go out of the Kingdom, and that Orders should be given to prevent the seizing of his Goods. How the Matter will end, I cannot tell. However, I think it reasonable to give the Man my Protection, as far as I am able to assist him.

I received last Post from your Lordship some Papers relating to *James Martin* and *William Fleming*, the former whereof is imprisoned at *Rochelle*, for refusing to go to Mass, and three Daughters of the latter are put into Convents, for endeavouring to make their escape out of the Kingdom; tho' they pretend to be descended from *Scotch* Parents, and by virtue of the Privilege granted by the King's Predecessors to that Nation, to be treated as Natives of that Kingdom. At the same time I received likewise from Mr. *Blathwayt* His Majesty's Directions to interpose in their Behalf; but 'till I am better inform'd by Mr. *Fleming* (who is not yet come) of the Validity of their Pretensions, I agree with your Lordship that it is not proper to stir in the Business now, and accordingly I sent Mr. *Blathwayt* word that this was your Opinion, and that I would conform to it: but that as soon as I was prepared, I would not be wanting to make all fitting Application.

Yesterday I received also from Mr. *Blathwayt* some Papers, giving an account of twelve *French* Protestants being taken out of an *English* Ship, commanded by *Thomas Cliff*, upon the high Sea, by an armed Sloop of *Bayonne*, tho' the Ship took them in at *St. Sebastians* in *Spain*, with Directions likewise from his Majesty to complain of this Insult: But 'till I have more particular Informations about the Matter, I cannot think it proper to make my complaint; for it is easy to foresee, that this Court will give me but little Satisfaction upon it, if I can't tell whom to charge with the fault, nor don't so much as know the Name of the Ship I pretend has been plunder'd at Sea by this King's Subjects. I desire therefore your Lordship would send me what further Discoveries you can make about it, that the Fact may appear as clear as possible. For I think (with Submission) it is a Matter of State, and of very ill Consequence if such Practices should be connived at by the *French*, and therefore ought to be highly insisted upon. I find by the Papers sent me, that some of them were transmitted to Mr. *Blathwayt* by Mr. Secretary *Vernon*; so that if your Lordship would consult him, it is likely he may be able to give you some further light in the Case.

Count *Zinzendorf*, the Emperor's Envoy here, was to have had his first Audience on Sunday last: but discovering, in some Conversation he had the Day before about the Ceremonial, that he had no Design to have any Audience of the three young Princes, because the *French* Envoy at *Vienna* had not seen the Arch-Duke there; the King was inform'd thereof, and thereupon sent him word that he would not see him, unless he would take his Audiences as all other publick Ministers constantly did: and thus that Matter stands at present. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Aug. 28. 1699.

I Have the favour of your Lordship's Letter of the 2d of *Sept.* N. S. with the inclosed Paper, containg Heads of Matters, about which you had spoke to Monf. *Torcy*. I cannot but believe Monf. *Torcy* knows what is done to *Arnold*; but since he pretends to have no Knowledge of it, I think your Lordship does well to continue your Enquiry concerning him, in order to procure his Liberty.

I remember I did speak about *Sadler*, and was answered he should have leave to go out of the Kingdom; which I wonder he does not accept of, rather than live under such Persecution. I

I conclude Mr. *William Fleming* has by this time been with your Lordship, to acquaint you with the State of the Matter concerning himself, his Sisters, and *James Martin*, who is imprisoned at *Rochelle*; and when your Lordship is fully informed of it, you will follow his Majesty's Directions therein, transmitted to you by Mr. *Blathwayt*.

As to the Complaint His Majesty has ordered you to make about the twelve Protestants that were taken by a *French Sloop* armed at *Bayonne* out of an *English Ship* bound home from *St. Sebastians*; all the Information I can further give your Lordship, is, by sending you the enclosed Paper, which was presented to the Lords Justices, who look'd upon it as a thing of so extraordinary a nature, that they thought fit to lay it before the King for His particular Directions.

I have received Information that there are frequent Meetings in *Scotland* of Persons disaffected to His Majesty's Government, and that they have actually two Deputies at *St. Germain's*; and that one, who had the same Employment, is lately dead at *Paris*. This Advice is very general, and perhaps not much to be depended upon; however, I thought it proper to give your Lordship this notice, that you may make what Enquiry you can, concerning the *Scotch* having any Deputies at *St. Germain's*.

I have nothing to trouble your Lordship with, concerning any of the other Particulars mentioned in your last Letter. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 9. 1699.

BEING out of order myself, I sent Mr. *Stanyan* to *Fontainebleau* with a Memorial about the Ship *William and Mary* taken upon the Coasts of *Guinea*, and brought into *Havre de Grace*, according to the Directions your Lordship gave me in yours of the 17th past; and because I was informed by Captain *Starkie* of *Honfleur*, that the *French Captain*, who took this Ship, was preparing in all haste to go to sea again, which would have made all my Endeavours fruitless, if not prevented: I informed *Monf. Torcy* of the said Captain's Intentions, and desired that Orders might be sent to *Havre de Grace* for securing him 'till he shall have answered for this Action. *Monf. Torcy* seemed surpris'd at the Fact, as it was set forth in the Memorial, and said he would lay it before the King that Day, which he accordingly did, and he received the King's Directions to send it to *Monf. de Maurepas*, who was to cause the Matter to be inquired into immediately at *Havre*, and a Report to be made of the Fact to His Majesty; and when Mr. *Stanyan* prest him to have the *French Captain* put into Prison, he said, when the Court was informed of the Fact by the King's Officer upon the place, they should know how to deal with him, and that in the mean time Care should be taken to prevent his going away.

I ordered Mr. *Stanyan* at the same time to speak to *Monf. de Torcy* about *Arnold*, which he accordingly did; and was answered, that he was put in Prison for assisting *French* Protestants, in making their Escapes out of the Kingdom, and for other Frauds, which he said he did not well remember at present. I believe this is not the true Reason of his being clapt up in Prison: but since they charge him with that sort of Crimes, I desire to know what further Steps are to be made in order to obtain his Liberty.

I have received your Lordship's Letter of the 24th past, with the inclosed Papers, relating to the *English Goods* seized by *Du Bart*, on board some *Dantzick* Ships, and will present another Memorial about that Affair, if your Lordship pleases; tho' I can expect no good Effect from it, because they gave a positive Denial to Mr. *Prior*, as I find by *Monf. Torcy's* Answer to his Demands upon that Head, entered into the Book of Memorials. The Words are these: "That the Ships upon which these Goods were taken are

"*Dantzickers*; that Oath is made, that the Goods, which the *English* re-claimed, belonged likewise to Merchants at *Dantzick*; that the *French* hold it therefore for good Prize, and consequently will not restore it, but think the *English* must have Recourse to *Dantzick* for the Reparation of the Losses, which they suffer in this Affair."

Upon Mr. *Robethon's* Letter to Mr. *Stanyan*, that the King desired a Pass for a *Frenchman* to buy his Majesty's Provisions of Wine, and that the King had spoke to Count *Tallard*; but lest it might not be dispatched, I was desired to speak also: I thought fit to write to Monf. *Torcy*, and I send your Lordship a Copy of his Answer, whereby you will find that they think they have granted a great Favour; but they intimate at the same time, that they would not willingly grant it again; which shews how zealous this Court is in Matters relating to *French* Protestants.

I hear Mr. *Fleming* is arrived, tho' I have not yet seen him. I shall do all I can for him, but I fear I shall not have much Success. At least we will consider whether the Privileges the *Scotch* had formerly granted them, will do us any good. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, Sept. 8. 1699.

I Have received the Honour of two Letters from your Excellency of the 28th and 31st past, and I have laid the Matters therein mentioned, relating to the Restitution of *Brisac*, before His Majesty; who is well pleased that your Lordship do, in Concert with Monf. *Heemskerck*, join with the Imperial Minister in his Applications to the Court of *France*, for the restoring of that Town, when you shall be solicited by him to give your Assistance in pressing the Dispatch of that Affair.

As soon as the King shall have received notice from the Duke of *Lorain* of the Birth of his Son, I will not fail to remind His Majesty of the necessary Orders for your Lordship. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, Sept. 11. 1699.

I Did not trouble you by the last Post, not being then able to give a very good account of myself; which I can do now, having had the Honour of a very long and particular Audience of his Majesty this Morning; the effect of which is, that he knows all that I was able to inform him of in relation to the present State of our Affairs in the Kingdom where you are, and that I am ordered to go from hence to-morrow Morning for the *Hague*, to receive what Orders his Majesty may send me, and to wait there till His further Pleasure be known.

Your Excellency sees by the inclosed Memoir, the Case of one *Girard* a Minister of *Neufchattel*, whom his most Christian Majesty will protect against what Madame de *Nemours*, the lawful Sovereign of the Place, designs to do in relation to her own Subject. His Majesty commands me to intimate to your Excellency, that it is his Pleasure that you concert with Monf. *Fribergen* upon this subject, and use your best Endeavours with the Court of *France*, that they should let the Matter be examin'd and decided by its competent Judges, according to the sense of the inclosed Memoir, of which Monf. *Fribergen* has likewise a Copy.

You will have heard of the King of *Denmark's* Death before this reaches you, so that as to publick News I shall not trouble you.

As to more private Affairs, *Obrian* is taken up at *Brussels*, so your Excellency must get *Bayly* to tell you the Particulars of what he knows relating

to that Man, and what he thinks would be best to do, that his being taken up may be serviceable to His Majesty's Interests.

I write this Letter inclosed to *Bayly* upon this head; the Account he will give your Excellency, you will be pleased to send directly to Mr. *Blathwayt*.

I take this opportunity, my Lord, to repeat my thanks to you, for your Favours to me whilst I staid with you at *Paris*; and to assure your Excellency, that in all Places and Stations I continue with great respect, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, Sept. 11. 1699.

I Am sorry to understand by Mr. *Stanyan's* Letter of the 4th instant, your Lordship's Indisposition, and hope it is without any further consequence.

I have now informed myself of His Majesty's pleasure about your Lordship's complimenting Monsieur and Madame in his Name upon the birth of their Grandson the Prince of *Lorain*, and I do find His Majesty inclin'd that your Lordship do take the first good opportunity to do it to them in His Majesty's name. For altho' the formal Notification is not yet come hither, (as it is expected every day) His Majesty is unwilling to delay upon such nicety the expressing his Satisfaction to their Highnesses upon this occasion.

One *Obryan* has been seized by Mr. *Hill*, Secretary at *Brussels*, upon information of treasonable Practices. Mr. *Prior* is with us, and going to meet the Earl of *Jersey* at the *Hague*. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of JERSY.

My Lord,

Paris, September 12. 1699.

SINCE my last, I have nothing to acquaint you of, relating to any proceedings with Monsieur *Torcy*, the Court being at *Fontainebleau*. I have no mind to go thither at present, but I believe I must; and then I intend to put in a Memorial relating to the Ship the *French* Protestants were taken out of, going from *St. Sebastian*; and also that which concerns the Daughters of Mr. *Fleming*, who is here. I find by *Cowper*, that he is now for going to *England*; and so will take what they have adjudged him, tho' he desires I would see what more could be done: But his accepting this, I fear, is a Bar to any other pretensions. Nevertheless, I will speak to Monsieur *Torcy* about it.

Hugh Hamilton and *William Fagell* were with Mr. *Stanyan*, and they came also to me; but I did not think fit to see them. They were in hopes I might have procured leave of His Majesty for them to return home. I did send them word of the danger they did incur, and that I was far from giving them any encouragement to go for *England*: But I am confident they intend it, and therefore I thought it necessary your Lordship should be acquainted with it. *Hugh Hamilton* says, he never had any Employment under the late King; he owns that he embark'd with him from *Ireland*, and that he has been at *St. Germain's*: but his business there was to study the Civil Law. He was tried and fined 200 Pounds for being concerned in a Libel, call'd *The Briton's Just Complaint*. *William Fagell* came from *Ireland* also, and says he is starving; and they both hope to find Mercy from His Majesty. They said they would go (upon their arrival) and surrender themselves to the Secretary of State. Your Lordship may have notice when they come over in the Packet-Boat. In the mean while, I will endeavour to learn their Characters, and what their business is in *England*. I am,

MANCHESTER.

N

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Sept. 14. 1699.

I Am glad to find by your Lordship's Letter of the ²/₃ ^{Sept.}/_{Aug.} that your Indisposition, which Mr. *Stanyan* acquainted me with, by the former Post, is gone over. I think your Lordship has hitherto gone as far as you can in the Business of the Ship named the *William* and *Jane*, seized by the *French* on the Coast of *Guinea*; and do not doubt but you will do all that is further necessary to procure fitting Reparation for the Persons concerned.

I am of your Lordship's Opinion, that what *Monf. Torcy* says concerning *Arnold*, is not the true Reason of their clapping him up, and I will lay it before the King, in order to know His Majesty's Pleasure, what He would have farther done therein.

If the Case of the *English* Merchants, concerned in the *Dantzick* Ships taken by *Du Bart*, were as it is alledg'd by the *French*, there would be no room for another Memorial; but it plainly appearing by the several Papers and Invoices upon Oath, which I sent your Lordship on the 24th of *August*, that the Goods do truly belong to His Majesty's Subjects, and not to *Dantzickers*; it is certainly most reasonable that the said Merchants should have Recourse for Satisfaction not to the Town of *Dantzick*, but to the *French*, who took the same: and therefore I think your Lordship ought to give in another Memorial, grounding the same upon the Reasons before mentioned, and particularly upon the Affidavits and Bills of Lading produced by the *English* Merchants living here; which are the strongest Proofs that can be given in a Matter of this nature. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berlin, Sept. 15. 1699.

IT is a great Satisfaction to me to hear you are entered into your new Post, where I intended to make you a Visit, and assist at your Entry, if I had got loose from hence in the manner I had projected, and as once was design'd; for it is above a Month since His Majesty allowed me to notify His Intention to relieve me by Count *Frisen*, and I expected by every Post my final Dispatches: but instead thereof, I have now received Orders to stay here, and watch what may become of the Differences in *Holstein*, which we are apprehensive may break out into open Hostilities; and I am more afraid for myself, that I shall be drawn in for another Winter. Wherever I am, I shall make it my Request, that your Excellency will allow me to keep up a Correspondence with you, which I hope is founded upon a better bottom than a Ministerial Formality, and is not to cease with this Employment, &c. I am,

STEPNEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Orange, Sept. 21. 1699.

THEY have arrested one *M. de Rodon* at *Die* in the *Dauphinè*, tho' he be born a Subject of His *Britannick* Majesty, as your Excellency may see by the Certificate of his Baptism, which I take the liberty to send you. Besides the quality of a Subject to the King, he has that of being His Officer, having a Commission from His Majesty as Paymaster of the Garrison. They found this Action doubtless upon that *Mr. Rodon* lived formerly at *Die*, where he has an Estate. It is true that he lived there, but he was born here, and staid here 'till he was eighteen Years old. His Father went at that

that time to *Nismes*, and thence to *Geneva* with all his Family, and there he died. The Mother of *Mr. Rodon*, after the Death of her Husband, came to die where her Estate lay; *Mr. Rodon*, who is now arrested, came to marry himself here, some time after, to a Person of *Orange*, and lived two Years at *Orange*. He returned into *Dauphinè*, where the greatest part of his Estate lay, and he came back here immediately after the Peace. The King has given him an Employment, well-knowing that he was His Subject. Notwithstanding all this, they arrest him, being furnished with one of my Passports. I am apt to believe that *Monf. Bouchu*, Intendant of the *Dauphinè*, by whose Order he has been arrested, did not know the Reasons of *Mr. Rodon*, that he did not even know that he was born a Subject to the King; therefore I write to him too, my Lord, sending him an Attestation of his Birth. So if your Excellency thinks fit to wait, before you complain to the Court of *France*, for the Answer of the Intendant, who without doubt will release him, as soon as he shall know that *de Rodon* is a Subject and an Officer of the King; if you think it more fit to complain, you will have the Goodness to do it.

I have received a Letter of *Monf. de Baviile*, Intendant of *Languedoc*, who asks of me, by a List he sends me, ten Persons of his Province, who are here, and are for the most part Workmen and Apprentices. I have no Orders to release such sort of Persons, for if we had not the liberty to keep some Workmen, our little Trade would be lost. I will nevertheless cause notice to be given to the others, who really ought not to stay, to retire themselves, as my Orders are. I thought I ought to inform your Excellency of all this, that you may have the Goodness to speak about it to *Monf. Torcy*, &c. I am,

LUBIERES.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris Sept. 21. 1699.

I Have recovered my Health so well, as to acknowledge the favour of yours of the 8th instant, and your last of the 11th. I do not doubt but you have received the Letter of the Duke of *Lorain* to His Majesty, which I ordered *Mr. Stanyan* to send you. I shall obey his Majesty's Orders in making the Compliments, when I shall have a convenient Opportunity, for at present it is not proper for me to go to *Fontainebleau*, if I were in a condition, the Court of *St. Germain*s being there; and they are like to continue so long, that I imagine the Court will return to *Versailles* in less than a Fortnight after they leave that Place. I did write to my Lord *Jersey* to have some Directions about my going thither, and he told me I should know His Majesty's Pleasure in it, which makes me desire that favour from you by the first Opportunity. I must own my Thoughts are much divided, not knowing whether it be for the King's Honour that I should go thither, as soon as the Court of *St. Germain*s is gone; and the only Inconvenience, in case I do not go, is, that I must delay to solicit the Ministers in those Matters, which I have Orders to represent. I did receive a Letter from *Mr. Prior*, in relation to an Affair at *Neuschattel*, and His Majesty's Orders; and accordingly I have discoursed with *Mr. Van Vryberge*, and we came to a Resolution, that it was proper for him to speak to the Ministers at *Fontainebleau*, which he intends to do this day; and to acquaint them, that having been with me, he found that I had the same Instructions with him, tho' I could not believe the King of *France* had any Intentions of sending Forces against that Place, after the Promise he had made His Majesty that he would be impartial in all things that concern *Neuschattel*. The Accounts you give me of one *Obryan* being seized at *Brussels* will make me inform myself of his Character, and what his Business was there, and I shall not fail to give you an account of it as soon as I can. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 23. 1699.

I Am so far recovered as to be able to acknowledge the favour of your Lordship's of the 4th instant. I do intend to send Mr. *Stanyan* to-morrow to *Fontainebleau*, with several Memorials of those Matters which are now depending, and I will acquaint your Lordship with what Success I have. I do also intend to insist upon it, that those Persons taken out of the Ship from *St. Sebastian* may be released, which I have received Orders from Mr. *Blathwayt* to do, tho' he says also that His Majesty does not believe it will be obtained, and I am much of the same Opinion. I have inclosed the best Account of the two Persons there named, which I could get, and I believe it is the truth of their Case. You'll find also one *Minnis* mentioned, and his Character. He is gone for *England*, and was recommended to Mr. *Macky* at *Dover*. Next Week I intend to send the Express for *England*, and then I shall give your Lordship the best Information of all Matters here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of the Paper mentioned in the foregoing Letter.

HUGH Hamilton was a Dependant of Lieutenant-General Hamilton, whom he followed hither out of *Ireland*, and had some credit with King *James* about three Years ago, but having powerful Enemies, they soon ruined him in his Opinion; upon which the Lieutenant-General left him to shift for himself, and so he has continued in a starving condition these last two Years, which makes him venture to go to *England*, tho' he be sure to be put in Prison. I cannot hear that he has ever engaged in any Business of Importance here, or that he has any other end in going, than the hopes of mending his Condition by the Assistance of his Relations.

William Fagell was a Servant of Colonel *Lutterel*, and never meddled in any other Business that I can hear of. Since the Colonel's Death he has lived here in want, and is going to *Ireland*, in hopes of living better among his Friends.

I am informed that one Mr. *Mennis* or *Minnis*, a *Scotchman*, embarked at *Calais* for *Dover* the beginning of this Month. The best Account I can get of him at present is; that he has followed the late King's Fortune ever since the Revolution, and being a Man of Letters, and of Intrigue, found means to insinuate himself into Lord *Middleton*'s favour, who employed him in forging Letters from the Jacobite Party in *Scotland* to the late King, complaining of Lord *Melford*, and desiring he might be removed from the Ministry, and Lord *Middleton* appointed to carry on the Correspondence with them. This forging, it seems, was discovered by *Melford*, who thereupon ruined him at *St. Germain's*, since which time he has continued in disgrace and want, which I am told are the chief Motives that induce him to venture home. Mr. *Prior* can give some account of him, and I suppose Mr. *Macky* too, since he embarked on the Packet-Boat for *Dover*.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Sept. 24. 1699.

I Am sorry to hear from Mr. *Stanyan* that your Lordship has been indisposed. I hope his next will tell us it is gone over.

This Morning came in Letters from Sir *William Beeston*, Governor of *Jamaica*, dated the 10th of last Month. He writes that by a Vessel arrived there the Day before from the *Spanish* Coasts, he was advised, that the *Scotch* have wholly deserted their Settlement at *Caledonia* in the Country of *Darien*, and went from thence about the 24th of *May*; but whither, he could not hear

hear nor guests, unless they are gone to disperse themselves amongst the Northern Plantations, for they had not Provisions to carry them to *Scotland*. What should induce them to so sudden a remove, is also uncertain. It is true the *Spaniards* had called the *Barlavento* Fleet to *Carthage*, and they were preparing to carry a considerable Strength against the *Scotch*; so that whether it was the Apprehension of this Force, or the want of Victuals that obliged them to take this Resolution, is yet unknown. This is so considerable a piece of News, that I would not omit giving your Lordship an account of it.

My Lord *Jersey* commands me to acquaint your Lordship, that he is glad to hear your Lordship is on the mending Hand, and he has nothing to trouble you with at present. I am, &c.

R. YARD.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Dieren, Sept. 25. 1699.

BY Mr. *Stanyan's* Letter of the 18th instant, I have reason to hope this may find your Excellency well recovered, so as to admit of Business again; and therefore I am now to acquaint your Excellency, that the Elector Palatine having, by a Letter to the King, desired His Majesty's good Offices at the Court of *France*, relating to his Demands in virtue of the Treaty of *Ryswick*; His Majesty has assured his Electoral Highness thereof by a Letter, of which the inclosed is a Copy, now sent to your Lordship for your better Instruction; together with the Signification of His Majesty's Pleasure, that your Lordship do, upon Application of the Minister of the Elector Palatine, give him the best Assistance you fairly may, in his Pretensions at the *French* Court.

His Majesty has sent for his Yachts, and will embark within three Weeks. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

26 Sept. 1699.

I Sent yesterday to the Court the Relation of what has happened among the Ministers in regard to *Neuschattel*, of which I now send you the Copy; and also that of the Letter of *Monf. Puyfieux*, which your Excellency has demanded of me. I am, &c.

M. VAN VRYBERGE.

Copy of the Journal of Mr. VRYBERGE.

Translated out of French.

ON the 21st of *September* in the Afternoon I set out in a Post-Chaise for *Fontainebleau*, where I arrived that Evening. The next Day being Tuesday, the Day on which one is sure to find *Monf. de Pomponne* and *Monf. de Torcy* together, I went in the Morning to see *Monf. de Torcy*, to compliment him on the Concern he had shewn for my Health, and asked for an hour to discourse with him. He told me to come the same Morning to the Lodgings of *Monf. de Pomponne*, and that I should speak to them both. Being come there, I made to those two Ministers, in the Name of the King, the Representations about the Affairs of *Neuschattel*, in the manner they are contained in the Memorial, which was given me for my Instruction, and which was join'd to the Orders, which His Majesty sent me.

Upon this *Monf. de Torcy* answered immediately that it was true, that his most Christian Majesty (to whom *Madame de Nemours* had promised that all

should remain at *Neufchattel* in the same State, without any change) pretended absolutely that the Minister *Girard*, who was dispossessed for being of the Party of *Monf. the Prince of Conti*, should be re-established, and that he had ordered *Madame de Nemours* to do it herself; that it was true that his most Christian Majesty had obliged this Princess to recall the Governor *Montet*, and to put another in his place, that might be more able to make himself to be obey'd.

Monf. de Pomponne added to this, that this Affair regarded only *Madame de Nemours*, who being a Sovereign could put in what Governor she pleased, and this did not regard the Pretenders to that Sovereignty; that his most Christian Majesty would not name the Governor for her, and that he did not know why it was said that his most Christian Majesty would give Troops, that so such a Governor might be in a condition to re-establish the Minister *Girard*, whilst this was not done; but that he knew very well that *Monf. Hervart* always tried to give ill Impressions to his *Britannick* Majesty, and to make worse than they were, by his Advices, all that was done in these quarters.

I answered to what *Monf. de Torcy* said, that we had advices, which appeared very certain to us, which were also sent to this Court, that the said Minister was not deposed because he was in the Interest of the Prince of *Conti*, but for being accused of some Crime which has no relation to this; by the Ecclesiasticks, to whom it belongs to have an Inspection over the Ministers of the Church, and that it would be very hard upon those Ecclesiastical Tribunals to hinder the Correction of a Person under their Jurisdiction, because he is in the Interest of that Prince. And as to the Governor, that it would be the same Hardship upon him to depose him, because he does not cause himself to be obey'd in an Affair, where he has no Right to exact an Obedience.

And to what *Monf. de Pomponne* said, I answered that I did not particularly know *Monf. Hervart*, and that therefore I did not pretend to justify him, much less if he should be in the wrong; that His *Britannick* Majesty Himself was far from believing that his most Christian Majesty would name a Governor for *Madame de Nemours* at *Neufchattel*, or to furnish him with Troops; but that nevertheless I could not omit saying to their Excellencies what had given occasion for this Report, which was the Letter of *Monf. Puyseux* of the 25th of *August*, and of which *Monf. de Hervart* has without doubt known the Contents. Upon which I read the Copy of this Letter, saying, nevertheless, that I did not know whether it was a faithful Copy of the Original; but if it was, His *Britannick* Majesty had reason to hope that, not to prejudice the Pretenders to *Neufchattel*, and particularly His *Britannick* Majesty, his most Christian Majesty would remain impartial, and not cause any Effects to follow the Threatnings contained in the said Copy.

After which *Monf. de Torcy* said, with a little Sharpness, Well, Sir, why should not the King cause himself to be obey'd by *Madame de Nemours*, and why should he not give her Troops to bring the People of *Neufchattel* to Reason? Who, notwithstanding the nearness to the Kingdom of *France*, have had the insolence to refuse the Re-establishing the said Minister during two Months?

To which I answered, That as for me, I did not come to their Excellencies but to acquit myself of the Orders, which the King had given me, consisting in what I had already told them; but since his Excellency did me the Honour to talk to me more amply about it, I did take the liberty to tell him from myself, that I saw very well, that his most Christian Majesty had absolute Power over *Madame de Nemours* as his Subject, to make himself to be obey'd by her; but that I did not see that, when that Princess has not the power to satisfy him, his most Christian Majesty has any Superiority over a Foreign Sovereignty, any more than the other Powers, and even so far as to send Troops that are in his Pay, and to trouble the County and the City of *Neufchattel*, which is comprehended in the Treaty of *Ryswick*, and to attack its Spiritual and Temporal Liberties, in replacing by force a Minister,

Minister, whose Affairs, being Ecclesiastick, ought to be decided in a Synod, which was a going to be called together for that purpose. I did slide in this Discourse that my Lord *Manchester*, who was at present a little indisposed, had received from the Court the same Letters with me, and that upon occasion that Ambassador would not fail to speak of it to their Excellencies.

The Translation of the Copy of the Letter of Mons. DE PUYSEUX, the French Ambassador in Suisse, to Messieurs the four Ministers of the Council, and the Community of the City of Neufchattel.

Messieurs,

THE King has done me the Honour to let me know, that he has again told Madame the Dutches of *Nemours*, that if she had not power enough in your City to cause the Minister *Girard* to be immediately re-established, his Majesty would give her some of his Troops to cause herself to be obey'd; and that he would name her a Governor that would know how to execute there the Orders, which that Princess must give there as Sovereign, if Monsieur *de Montet* was not capable of this: but that it was absolutely necessary that she accepted the one or the other of these two Propositions, if they refused still in your City to annul all that was done against the Minister *Girard*, and to re-establish him; his Majesty being absolutely resolved to admit of none of the Reasons, of which use is pretended to be made to support the removing of the said Minister *Girard*, and the Proceedings that have been had against him; because, they being often overcome, it is unnecessary to repeat them, ordering me even not to give him any account of them for the future. It is upon this, that it is proper that you send me (if you please) a positive Answer without any Delay, to put me in a Condition to inform his Majesty of your Intentions. I am, Messieurs, your most affectionate Servant,

At Soleure the 25 Aug. 1699.

PUYSEUX.

To Mr. YARD.

SIR,

Paris, Sept. 26. 1699.

I Thank you for the favour of yours, and do desire you would let my Lord *Jersey* know, that at present I have nothing worth troubling his Lordship with. Mr. *Stanyan* is still at *Fontainebleau*. The Ministers here are sometimes difficult of access, which I imagine is the Reason he is not come back as he intended; besides, he is to settle some Matters relating to my publick Entry, which I hope to make as soon as the Court returns. I have received a Complaint from Sir *Lambert Blackwell*, that the Letters are stopp'd at *Lyons*, under pretence that they ought to be paid for thither. I desire you would inform yourself how that Matter was agreed, and I should be glad to have a Copy of that Agreement, being unwilling to represent any thing to the Ministers, when I have not good Grounds for what I say. The *English* Post is not yet arrived. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Hague, Sept. 30. 1699.

I Am very much obliged to you for the honour of your Letter; I was very sorry for your Illness. I hope that having paid the Tribute, which the greatest number of Strangers are obliged to pay to the City of *Paris*, you will enjoy perfect Health during the whole time of your Residence. Mr. *Vryberge* has informed me of what has passed. The *French* have no more right

to meddle with the Affairs that regard that Province than those of *England* and this Country, tho' *Monf. de Torcy* takes it up with such a high Air. I am sorry my Lady *Manchester* could not receive the Services and Assurances of Madame *Meyercroon*, by reason of her absence in the beginning; for now she is so accustomed to the Manners of the Country, that she will have no more occasion for them, &c. I am,

PORTLAND.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 30. 1699.

I Have delay'd sending the Express, in hopes of having some more insight in those Matters I acquainted you with, and especially in the Project of the Button, which to me seems very ridiculous, tho' it is affirmed to be true, and I am promised to have a full account of it. I cannot learn there is any formed Design at *St. Germain*, unless it be in *Scotland*, which they say is much in the Interest of K. J.

When Mr. *Stanyan* was last at *Fontainebleau*, he could not see *Monf. Torcy*, because *Monf. de Pomponne* was then very ill. He is since dead, and I am sorry for it, because it will make the other much higher than ever.

I have received two Letters from the Prince of *Vaudemont*, who seems very pressing I should speak in his Concern, which I shall not fail to do as soon as I can. It is a great Satisfaction to me that your Lordship knows this Court, and I do not doubt of your Justice in representing to his Majesty, that notwithstanding the greatest Care I may have, yet I shall meet with many Disappointments and Delays.

The *Spanish* Ambassador is endeavouring to get a private Audience of the King. The first Matter he is to represent, is, in relation to some Transactions at *Loo*. The Declaration of his King makes also great Discourse here. I have not yet seen him, tho' the usual Compliments have passed between us, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

The State of Affairs at *St. Germain* continues much the same it was, they are still pleasing themselves with hopes the Nation will recall them at last. Tho' the greatest Prospect they seem to have, is the Death of the King of *Spain*, which might again renew a War.

Several Persons of little note come to *St. Germain*; and one *George Mills* living at the Sign of the Ship in *Charles-street, Westminster*, where he keeps a Victualling-House, came thither near three Weeks ago. He says he brought Letters from fourteen Parliament-Men. He is still at *Fontainebleau*, where he expects his Dispatches for *England*, and I believe I shall know when he goes, and which way.

One *Thomas Johnson* came also, and went soon again for *England*. He keeps the *Cooks-Arms*, a Victualling-House, near *Lockit's*. He is a sort of Factor for Colonel *Bignan*, and has Twenty Pounds a Year.

Mrs. *Evans* is gone for *England*. She saw K. J. and the Q. was conducted by *Berkenhead*. It is believed she brought and carried back Letters. She is the Wife of *Peter Evans* a Hair-Merchant, in the *Old-Baily*.

K. J. could not forbear expressing his Resentment in publick, upon the Duke of *Bavaria's* giving leave to apprehend *Obryan* at *Brussels*.

One *Berkeley*, a short thick brown Fellow, aged about twenty eight, with a large Mouth, came about a fortnight past to *St. Germain*, and brought a Letter from Lord *Drummond*, and some other Noblemen of *Scotland*, to Lord and Lady *Perth*. The chief Matter he came about was to communicate a Design they had formed of debauching the Army there, and that they had already begun by some Dragoons. One Lieutenant *Ogilvy* is a great Manager in that Affair. He is in Lord *Treviot's* Regiment. They have invented

invented a sort of Button, which every one that engages for K. J. wears on his Coat; that they have a small Roll of Parchment in each Button, on which are written the first Letters of these Words, *God bless K. J. and prosper his Interest*; which will appear out of the Button, if it be turned round by an Instrument like a Skrew, made on purpose. *Berkley* is gone to *St. Amand*, to receive Orders of my Lord *Melford*, who drinks the Waters there, and from thence he goes to *Zealand*, recommended to one *Gordon* a *Scotchman*, who is to take care of his Passage to *Scotland*.

One *Cockburn*, another Deputy, brought Letters from the Earls of *T—* and *H—*. He is commissioned from the whole Party of the South of *Scotland*. He was formerly Quarter-Master of Horse to K. J. and now Governor to Lord *Seaton*, whom he introduced at *Fontainebleau* to kiss K. J.'s Hand.

Clark, alias Father *Cosmo*, is going to *England*, as is said, with some Character from the Duke of *Florence*, to protect him. He is well acquainted with one *Cockburn* a Goldsmith, living in *Round Court* in the *Strand*, and will probably go to him as soon as he arrives. The Duke of *Berwick* in his last Journey prevailed with the Pope to pay K. J. the Arrears of his Pension of Thirty-two Thousand a year, for four years past, which was stopt upon a Declaration sent into *England* in favour of the Protestants. This Money was by this *Clark* remitted from *Leghorn* to *England*. Part of it to *Cockburn*, part to *Clapton* a Woollen-Draper in the City; they do not know the Street, but he is rich and well known; and some to *Pate*, another Woollen-Draper in the City. The use of it is, as it is said, to bribe Parliament-Men. *Clark* has also brought the current Year's Pension to *Paris*, to the value of Fifty Thousand Crowns, which K. J. has put into the hands of one *James* a Priest, and Father *Runkie* a Jesuit, to be distributed among the needy Jacobites here. Five Thousand are given to the Duke of *Berwick*, Four Thousand to Lord *Melfort*, Three Thousand to Lady *Tyrconnel*, and some to Lord *Perth*, and a Thousand Crowns to *Fitz-James*. He is a Monk, but does not wear the Habit.

One *John Wallis*, a *Scotchman*, well-known at *London*, has a Pension regularly paid him from K. J. every three Months, and Colonel *William Grimes* the same at *Edinburgh*; he was a Lieutenant of Horse to the late Lord *Dundee*.

K. J. has certainly a considerable Sum of Money, and it is said to be Two Hundred Thousand *English* Pounds. He is in a very good humour, and his Emissaries here do all they can to get the *English* to *St. Germain's*. I am apt to think they prevail mostly with the *Scotch*.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Brussels, Oct. 2. 1699.

IF I had been here at my Post, I should not have failed to offer my Services to your Excellency before now, and to require the honour of your Commands in every thing, which might be for the King's Service or your own.

I came hither about six Days since, in order to send away to a safer place one *Obryan* an *Irishman*, who was lately come from *Paris*, and had been noted as a dangerous Man. I sent him to *Breda*, and there I believe he is in good hands. I would now beg of your Lordship to let some enquiry be made about him, that we may know what he can discover at least, if he can be brought to Confession. I believe this is the Man who carried off *Goodman*, and I believe he went also from *England* with Sir *George Berkley*.

I have leave to go over with the King, my Lord; but I leave a Secretary here, one *Monf. Marmande*, who will be very proud to receive, and to obey your Lordship's Orders.

My Lord, I did bring a Letter from the Prince of *Vaudemont* to the King, by which his Highness did desire His Majesty to give His Orders to your Excellency to recommend his Interests to the King of *France*, and to his Ministers.

P

The

The King was pleased to tell me, that such Instructions had been already given to your Lordship, and indeed I had told the Prince so much before at *Milan*, upon the Assurances which my Lord *Jersey* had given me. I do hope your Lordship is perfectly informed of the Prince's Affairs, or else you may be so from the Princess *de Lisbonne* or her Advocate, or else I will take care to have one sent on purpose from hence to wait upon you at *Paris*. But whereas the Ministers of *France* are well acquainted with the Prince's Interest, 'tis enough perhaps if your Lordship will please to let them know, how seriously the King our Master does concern himself for every thing, which does relate to the Prince of *Vaudemont*. I shall be long enough here to receive your Lordship's first Commands, if I may be any ways serviceable to you at the *Hague*, whilst the King is there, and I shall be glad of any occasion to mark the Zeal and Sincerity, with which I am, &c.

J. HILL.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 5. 1699.

I Have received the favour of yours of the 25th past, with the Copy of the King's Letter to the Elector Palatine. I shall take care to follow his Majesty's Orders, and give his Ministers here all the Assistance I can, in what we can fairly insist upon by the Treaty of *Ryswick*. The Emperor's Minister has also the same Instructions, and we have already discoursed of the Matter. The Dispute is about the time of Payment, when it ought to begin. I suppose the Earl of *Jersey* is now with you. I am glad to hear his Majesty goes so soon for *England*. Mr. *Stanyan* is gone to *Fontainebleau*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Venice, Oct. 3. 1699.

I Acquaint your Excellency that Applications have been made unto me, and also, I suppose, unto several of your Lordship's Friends here, to intercede with your Excellency to befriend the Count *Bosselli*, that he may be released from the *Bastile*. But as I absolutely refused to trouble you thereabout, so I hope others may do the like, he being a notorious evil Person, that has done many wicked and villanous things in this his native Country, and several other States of *Italy* also; insomuch that he is banished from them, and he has offered his endeavours unto the *French* and *St. Germans* to kill our King; for which Reason my Lord *Jersey* procured him to be more strictly confined, and observed, as I suppose your Excellency may have been informed, and have some Instructions also to watch him, lest he commit more evil. His Mother and Wife with other Relations, by this time, may be at *Paris* to use all the efforts they can for him. But I suppose this State does not desire he should have his liberty, neither do I think your Excellency will favour it, now you are informed of his Circumstances. I have notified, from time to time, unto the Secretaries of State, what I could learn concerning this Count *Bosselli*, and the first notice of his villanous Design against our King came from hence, &c. I am,

H. BROUGHTON.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Oct. 3. 1699.

I N my last, by the Express, I informed your Lordship of one *Barclay*, who was gone to *St. Amand* to Lord *Melfort*, and was from thence to go for *Scotland*; but upon advice that Lord *Drummond* was come to *London*, he is returned to *Paris*, where he is to stay 'till Lord *Drummond's* Priest arrives, who is expected in six or seven Days. He belongs to the *Scotch* College here,
his

his Name we do not know, but it is thought Mr. Macky may know him. He brings Dispatches, and may be they are of consequence, so that he should be taken up.

By this Post there goes a Letter directed to Mr. Dunster, under a cover to Mr. Mackullock, at the *three Lyons* in *Bedford Court* by *Covent-Garden*, who is to take care of it. I desire your Lordship will give orders that it may be taken, and afterwards delivered as directed, and I desire an account of this may be sent me, by which means (as I am assured) a Correspondence, that may be of service, may be discovered.

Mills that I mentioned, returns on Monday next by the way of *Calais*, and carries a Niece of Sir *John Friend*. He also takes with him the Horses he could not dispose of. He presented one to the Prince of *Wales*, for which K. J. gave him Fifty Louis d'Or, and promised to take care of him. He was much caressed for one of his Rank. I suppose your Lordship will think fit he should be taken up at *Dover*, in order to be examin'd, and to see what Letters he brings over. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Oct. 5. 1699.

I find by your Lordship's of the 18th of *Sept.* that you are going for *Holland*, so that I fear mine of the 30th of *Sept.* by Express, and that of the third of *October* in Cypher, will not have come to your hands. It is true there was a Report that His Majesty had ordered you to wait on Him: but I was not certain of it, else I would have sent the Express by way of *Holland*. Mr. *Stanyan* is gone again to *Fontainebleau*, and I have taken this occasion to condole with *Monf. de Torcy* upon the loss of *Monf. de Pomponne*, and I put him in mind of several Memorials, especially those about two Ships, that of *Guinea* carried into *Havre*, and the other from *St. Sebastian*.

I am now very well again. My last Illness was occasioned by my going out too soon. I did desire Mr. *Blathwayt* some time ago to know His Majesty's Pleasure about my going to *Fontainebleau*; but having had no Answer from Him, I do not intend to take that Journey, unless I receive yet Orders to the contrary. I send your Lordship what I know of *Obryan*; and by the next Post I shall acquaint Mr. *Tard* of something, which I now forbear to mention, believing your Lordship has not the Cypher with you. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

In this Letter was the following Paper.

The best Account I can learn of *Obryan* is what he said of himself when he first came over, viz. That he was always a great Acquaintance of *Goodman*, that they had often robbed on the Highway, that when he received the News of his being an Evidence, he was in custody of a Messenger; that he was engaged with him in the Assassination, tho' none of the others knew of it, which made him resolve to get *Goodman* out of the way; so employing some Friends, he soon obtained his Liberty. Colonel *Ingram* came to him, and told him, that his Friend would ruin Lord *Aylesbury* and Lord *Montgomery*, if it was not prevented; and that those Lords would not spare any Money to persuade *Goodman* to go into *France*, or to have him carried away by force. This *Obryan* undertook, and *Ingram* procured a Settlement of Five Hundred Pounds *per Annum* from the two Lords, besides Five Hundred Pounds in Money. That with some Difficulty *Obryan* and *Ingram* met *Goodman* at the *Dog* in *Drury-Lane*, where with fair Words, but more out of fear, he consented to go, and *Obryan* never left him afterwards till he brought him to *St. Germain's*, where he was well received: but having spent their Money, and *Goodman* not finding any thing would be done for him,

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he was dissatisfied; and left, when my Lord *Portland* came, he might go to his House for protection, he was secured, and was never heard of since. This *Obryan* soon after turned his Religion, and so procured a small Pension. Upon the Peace, Colonel *Ingram* was obliged to leave *England*, by reason of the late Act of Parliament, and *Obryan* complained to K. J. that he kept their Money, which he denied; but soon after, the said Lords remitted Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds, which K. J. ordered to be divided between *Obryan* and *Goodman's* Woman, and so Matters continued 'till he went to *Brussels* to Lord *Aylesbury*. It is thought, that if he believed he should not be soon released, he would discover all he knows, and he is fully acquainted with the Proceedings of most Lords.

As for the Persons in Custody, I cannot learn any thing but what Mr. *Prior* knows. They are no longer in pain for them at *St. Germain's*, since Lord *Melfort* writes from *Flanders*, that there is no evidence against them; and *Connel* the Brother is returned from *Flanders* upon *Melfort's* Promises, and has received Five Hundred Livres.

To Monsieur de TORCY.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 5. 1699.

I Should have been to pay my respects to you at *Fontainebleau*, if my Health had permitted it; and hoping for a recovery I have deferr'd from day to day to express to you the Affliction I am in for the loss you have had in *Monf. de Pomponne*. As I take great part in all that concerns you, I doubt not but you do me the justice to believe, that I am very much concerned at it, because he was so near to you; and if any thing can be a Consolation to me, it is that this sad Accident opens a way to you for new Honours, which the King your Master has been pleas'd to heap on you. You will permit, Sir, that I send you in writing these Sentiments of my Heart, 'till my Health permits me to do it by word of Mouth; and at the same time to suffer me to remind you of the Memorials, which Mr. *Stanyan* has presented to you by my Orders, last Week. I have very much at heart chiefly those two, which regard the *English* Vessel taken upon the Coast of *Guinea*, and brought into *Havre* as a Prize; and the other, which came from *St. Sebastian*, which was pillaged at full Sea by a *French* Chaloupe, which took eleven Passengers out of it. You will very sensibly oblige me, if you will manage it so, that by your Means I may obtain justice about these Injuries done to the *English* Subjects, of which Mr. *Stanyan* can inform you more amply, if you desire it; as also about some other Affairs that regard the King my Master. I had charg'd Mr. *Stanyan* at the same time to tell you, that I should be ready to make my Entry the 8th of this next Month, in case his Majesty approves of it. I desire you would inform me of this, and to believe me to be with much Esteem, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Copenhagen, 8 Oct. 1699.

I Have not troubled your Excellency since I answered the Letter you were pleas'd to honour me with upon your first Arrival at the *French* Court, because I had nothing particular to write, besides the News of this Place, which I have sent to Mr. *Stanyan* from time to time, as any thing remarkable happened.

At present I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency, that there are four *Dantzick* Vessels in arrest here, in the hands of the *French* Ambassador: namely, those that *Monf. Du Bart* brought up when he was in the East-Sea with

with the Prince of *Conti*, because the *Dantzickers* were thought disaffected upon that occasion. There were some *English* Effects in the said Ships to a considerable value, which I had first orders to reclaim from the *Danes*, as being within their Port: but being answer'd, that I must address myself to the *French*, in whose power the Goods were; His Majesty was thereupon pleased to give orders to desire Restitution at the *French* Court, which was granted there accordingly, and Orders promised to be sent to *Monf. de Chamilly* for that purpose, who did not disown them, but desired to have proofs of the Property, which I have delivered to his Excellency in the most authentick Form that can be desired, and answered all his Objections; so that he acknowledges himself fully satisfy'd: but now excuses himself for want of positive Orders, to restore the Goods that belong to the *English*, which he says he never yet had, but barely to enquire narrowly into the matter, and report it as he found it, in which he says he has done the *English* justice, and now writes for Orders thereupon; which, unless he receives before the 25th *October, N. S.* he intends to sell the *English* Effects with the rest, which the Owners desire me to hinder all I can; and I have orders to do my best offices in their behalf. And therefore take the Liberty to acquaint your Excellency with the whole matter, praying you will be pleased to insist, that *Monf. de Chamilly* may have positive Orders, without farther delay, to restore all the *English* Effects to those that have Commission here from the Owners, to receive them, &c. I am,

H. GREG.

To Mr. YARD.

Sir,

Paris, Octob. 7. 1699.

I Suppose the Earl of *Jersey* was gone before the Express arrived, yet I hope you have opened my last wrote in Cypher; and that I shall have a Copy of the Letter, which I am informed is of consequence. Here is one *Alexander Don*, lately come with Letters to the Duke of *Berwick*, under Cover to his Gentleman of the Horse. They are from *Castles, Conter, and Bernarde*, those that were in the Assassination, and are in Prison by Act of Parliament. They complain they have not receiv'd their Pension from the late K. these six months; which if not paid them punctually, they will be obliged to take other measures, tho' much contrary to their inclinations. These three were taken in this *Don's* House. They assure the Duke of *Berwick* that he is faithful, and may be trusted on all occasions. He is in great want, and has delivered a Petition to the late King for a subsistence; which, if refused, as the late K. parts with as little as he can, perhaps some use may be made of him.

Mr. *Stanyan* is come from *Fontainebleau*, and he will send you the Answers we have to the Memorials, tho' I think they are not such as one ought to expect. I intend to insist farther on them when I have an opportunity. They write from *Loo*, that the *Spanish* Ambassador has delivered to all the Lords Justices a Memorial relating to the Succession to the Crown of *Spain*, which His Majesty resents very much. I desire you will let me know of what nature it is, or whether it is not the same which was given Mr. *Stanhope* some time ago, and to most of the Ministers abroad. You will let Lord *Jersey* know the Contents of this. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 28. 1699.

MR. *Couchman* arrived here last *Tuesday*, and brought your Letters of the 30th instant, *N. S.* for my Lord *Jersey*; and yesterday came in the Post with your Lordship's Letter of 3 *Octob* both which I opened, according

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to the directions my Lord *Jersey* left with me. The first of these Letters I sent to his Lordship in *Holland* by *Tuesday's* Post, and to-morrow will send the other; at the same time, care is taken to do all that can be done to inquire after the Persons mentioned by your Lordship, and a Messenger is sent out to apprehend *Mills*, and Lord *Drummond's* Priest, if they can be met with there; and if that fail, we will try to get *Mills* here. As soon as I had decyphered your Lordship's Letter, I took a Coach immediately, and went to the Post-house to get the Letter directed under *Mackullock's* Cover in *Bedford-Court*; but I came too late, the Letters being sent out from the Post-house before we had ours at *Whitehall*. A Messenger was sent presently to look for the Letter-Carrier, who had that Letter in his Walk, but he had delivered it before he could be met with. If any more come directed so, we shall have them, and your Lordship shall have an account thereof.

I have sent what news I have to Mr. *Stanyan*, and will not trouble your Lordship with the repetition of it. I believe the King's Directions will be signified to the *Spanish* Ambassador to-morrow, to leave the Kingdom. Indeed the Paper he gave about was very insolent, and appealing to the Parliament, so that the King could do no less. Mr. *Stanhope* is recall'd at the same time. I am, &c.

R. YARD.

Remonstrance presented by the Marquis DE CANALES, Ambassador from the King of Spain, to the Lords Justices.

Translated out of French.

FIRST, That His Catholick Majesty having been informed by evident Proofs that His Majesty King *William*, the *Hollanders*, and other Powers, (in consequence of what they have treated and stipulated last year at *Loo*) are now at this time actually hatching new Treaties for the Succession to the Crown of *Spain*, and (what is most detestable) contriving its Division and Repartition: His Majesty orders his Extraordinary Ambassador residing in this Kingdom to make known to the first Lords and Ministers of *England*, the just Repentment which his Majesty has against these Operations and Proceedings, never before seen, nor even attempted to be treated of by any Nations in regard to the Interests of another; and still less, during the Life of a Monarch, who is of so fit an Age to have Reasons to hope (for many years) a Succession so much wished for by all Nations; who, without a detestable Avarice, could not be provoked to usurp and overturn another Prince's Country.

That if this was permitted, and was not contrary to the Law of Nature, no Nation nor Dominion could be safe against the Machinations and Deceits of the strongest and most malicious; whereas Reason, and not Force, confines Nations.

That if it was permitted to Strangers to take notice, and to put their hands into the Lines of Succession of Kings and Sovereigns, there would be no Statutes nor Municipal Laws to be observed in the one, nor in the other; nor could any be free from the Attempts of others, and the Crown of *England* less than any.

If we lie watching the Indispositions of Sovereigns, no Health would be constant, no Life safe, while the one and the other depend on the Hand of the Almighty, who regulates Life, Death, and Empires.

That the impressions which one Kingdom makes upon the other, to tempt the Faith of the Subjects, and to excite their Minds to a Rising, are an Offence, and but a degree less than the betraying the good Faith which ought to be observed among Christians, and more particularly among Allies and Friends.

That we ought not to presume that any Prince, or Nation, and still less the King of the *Spanish* Nation, is so negligent, as not to take just measures against

against Accidents that may happen when least thought of, to secure the publick Peace, and the Repose of *Europe*, which has been the Aim of the King and the Nation for so many Ages, as it is now and will always be.

That if these Proceedings, these Machinations and Projects are not quickly put a stop to, we shall, without doubt, see a dire, and universal War over all *Europe*, difficult to stop even when we are willing, and most sensible and prejudicial to the *English* Nation, which has newly tried and felt what Novelties, and the last War have cost them. This Matter is so worthy of Reflection and Consideration, that it is not doubted but it will be owned as such by the Parliament, the Nobility, and all the *English* Nation, which has always been so full of foresight into the present and future times.

The same Nation must consider its particular Interests, the Trade and the Treaties which she principally has with the King and the *Spanish* Nation; the Alteration, the Division, and Separation of which, would of necessity draw after it considerable prejudices and damages; and all this is prevented by cutting short the Project that is begun, and not to help on Novelties that have from all times been hurtful to Empires and Sovereignties.

That the Extraordinary Ambassador of *Spain* will manifest to the Parliament, when it shall be assembled, the just Resentment which he now expresses, as his Master has caused it to be notified to all the Publick Ministers of the Kings, Princes, and Republicks that reside at the Court of *Madrid*.

The Translation of the Paper sent to the Spanish Ambassador, and which was wrote in French by Mr. Secretary VERNON, and dated the 30th of September, 1699.

HIS Majesty having seen the Paper which the Secretary of the Embassy of *Spain* has delivered lately, by Order of your Excellency, to several of the Lords Justices of the Kingdom; His Majesty has found the Contents so insolent and seditious, that in Resentment of so extraordinary a Proceeding, and which can by no means be justified by the Law of Nations, He orders that you go out of His Dominions precisely in eighteen days, to be counted from this Notification, and that you keep in your House, without going out of the limits of it till your departure. I am also ordered to let you know, that these are the Orders of His Majesty, that no Writing be any more received from you, nor any of your Domesticks.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Octob. 12. 1699.

BY the last Post, I sent Mr. *Tard* these Heads, and was in hopes to have received by this time some further Satisfaction, Monsieur *Torcy* saying he would answer mine. I thought it more proper to write to him than to go to *Fontainebleau*, since His Majesty had left it to me.

Your Lordship will see by the first Article, that where it is of most consequence, and to what relates to the Passengers, there is no Answer given; tho' Monsieur *de Torcy* did say, they were *French* Protestants, and also intimated as if they would not be released. When the Court returns, I shall not fail to do what I can for them, tho' I know not their Names, nor where they are, and so can only speak in general.

To the second, the Answer is in effect none; they being, I fear, resolved not to be better informed, tho' I acquainted them fully with all the Proceedings, as you sent them me.

As to the third, I cannot yet judge which will be their fate, tho' I am in hopes they may acquit them; the *Premier President*, to whom I sent Mr. *Stanyan*, being inclined that way, but it will depend on the Orders he has from Court.

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As to the fourth, I think it impossible to give any Answer, but that speedy justice shall be done, that the Master of the Ship and the Persons concerned, shall be punished: but none is as yet obtained, and I hear that the Captain, who took this Ship, is sailed, tho' I pressed he might not have that Liberty, till he had answered for the Crime he has committed.

I have received a Petition from Mr. *Tard*, sent me by your Lordship's Orders, of one *Deramee*, a *Frenchman*. I have several daily from *Marseilles*, and most of them are such as your Lordship spoke about, and was refused. I do intend to consider about these Persons, and when I have nothing of more consequence, I will see what I can do; not that I expect much good, because they are more rigorous now in those Points, than when your Lordship was here. Your coming to *Holland* gives occasion for several Conjectures, and when they shall hear that the *Spanish* Ambassador is obliged to leave *England*, for his insolent Memorial, it will occasion many more. I have visited the *Spanish* Ambassador here, and he has returned it. I acquainted him with the news of *Darien*, which he was glad to hear. I find he has endeavoured several times to have Audience of this King, but as yet he has been put off by some pretence or other, which I could see he was not satisfied with. The Proceedings of the Ambassador in *England*, will make it yet more difficult: for ever since his arrival, it was thought he intends to say something of that nature. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Brussels, Octob. 12. 1699.

I Did myself the honour to write to your Excellency lately; and I did, as I was desired, take leave to put your Lordship in mind of the Prince of *Vaudemont's* Interests. His Highness has now thought fit to send the Bearer hereof, *Monf. Souart*, his Secretary, to *Paris*, purposely to sollicite those Affairs, and his first Instructions are to address himself to your Excellency, as having built the greatest hope of Success upon the powerful Recommendation of our King, begun by my Lord *Portland*, and continued by my Lord *Jersey*. All I have to do now, my Lord, is to recommend this Gentleman to your Excellency, until he has made himself better known by his own merit, which is indeed very great.

I am going hence, and am almost sorry for it, because I am going out of the reach of your Lordship's Commands, which would always have been very agreeable to me, who am, &c.

J. HILL.

To Mr. HILL.

S I R,

Paris, Octob. 12. 1699.

I Received the Favour of your's from *Brussels*. I suppose this will find you going for *England*, where you will endeavour to stay most part of the Winter. I have wrote to the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and shall take all the Care I can; but I do find by what he told me, that he knows little of it. I have waited on *Madame de Lisbonne*, and have agreed to stay till one comes from *Flanders*, who is perfectly informed. It will not be an easy matter to succeed. For the Question is not between this King and the Prince, but an Account of Debts this Estate was formerly liable to. When it was restored to the Prince, at His Majesty's desire, they should have taken care to have expressed it more fully, especially in this particular. I have sent to Lord *Jersey* all I know of *Obryan*, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Octob. 7. 1699.

I Acquainted your Lordship in my last with the Message sent to the Spanish Ambassador. He is preparing to be gone, and says he will embark the next week for *Flanders*. How he will satisfy his Creditors, I know not.

I cannot as yet give your Lordship any further Account concerning the Persons we are looking for at *Dover*, for they do not yet appear; but the Messenger continues there to watch their coming.

I am in hopes we shall have the King here in eight or ten days; and wish it the more, because People now begin to think the time long till he arrives. I am,

R. YARD.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, Octob. 16. 1699.

I Have the Honour of your Excellency's Letters, that of the 5th, which came strait hither, and that of the 30th past by way of *England*, and returned thence. I understand by the Gentleman, nothing can be done so soon as we wish; but as I have spoken to the Persons concerned here, in a little time I shall be able to give him a better Answer than I can at present. It is thought proper that *Bayly* be continued in *statu quo*. Mr. *Tard* has let my Lord *Fersey* know what he has done in relation to the Advices which *Couchman* brought. This, at present, my Lord, is all I can say upon this subject in general; as soon as we can get together into *England*, I hope to be more particular upon it, and more satisfactory to the Gentlemen concerned.

We expect the King here to-morrow night for certain, and about *Saturday* following we shall be wishing the Wind fair. *Obryan* is by this time on board, in order to his going for *England*. The other Persons seized this Summer about *Loo*, are still in Custody at *Arnheim*.

I trouble Mr. *Stanyan* with what is less material, and detain your Excellency no longer than to repeat to you the Assurances of my being with zeal and respect,

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. YARD.

S I R,

Paris, Octob. 21. 1699.

I Understand by yours of *October 15*, that none of the Persons can as yet be found. *Mills*, that I gave you advice of, delayed his Journey upon some Orders, but goes to-morrow, by way of *Rouen*. If he could be met with at his landing, the Letters he brings might be secured; if not, you know where he lives at *London*. *Cosmo*, alias *Clark*, changed his design of going to *England*, but has sent one *Fowles*, a Banker here, to do the business. It is thought he may be heard of at the Goldsmith's in *Round-Court*, whom I formerly mentioned. Lord *Drummond's* Priest, whose name is *Alexander Drummond*, is not yet come, which surprizes the Court of *St. Germain's*. Mr. *Stanyan* will send you what news we have, as also the Copy of the Memorial that was given Mr. *Stanhope* at *Madrid*, which tho' in substance much the same, with that of the Marquis *de Canales*, yet is in better words, and not appealing to Parliament. Certainly he never can have had such Orders from *Spain*. I am,

MANCHESTER.

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To

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Oct. 28. 1699.

I Can now inform your Lordship that a Person is come from *Brussels* about the Affairs of the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and I have represented the Case to *Monf. de Torcy*, who, being in a good Humour, heard me patiently, and has promised me to represent it to the King, and that I shall have an Answer in a few Days. By what I could perceive, I may be in hopes of good Success; which I think cannot be otherwise, unless they intend the Prince of *Vaudemont* no Advantage by what was granted him. Your Lordship will see by the inclosed Memorial the Heads of what I spoke about to *Monf. de Torcy*. As to the first Article, I did argue the Matter fully, in relation to the Passengers that were taken out of the Ship, which Arguments will be too long to trouble you with, since there is a great deal to be said on that head; but they will not be convinced, when it is the Case of *French* Protestants. At last he said he hoped I would not press his Majesty any further, which made me let it fall for the present, and I turned my Discourse on the third and fourth Articles. Your Lordship will see the Answers, but I believe I shall obtain more favour for them in case I do not insist on the others, which I am satisfied will never be granted. The Mother of these *Flemings* is a *French* Woman, and also in Prison. I fear her Case will be very hard. As to the sixth Article; having received lately a Letter from *Mr. Greg* at *Copenhagen*, an Extract of which I send your Lordship, I again pressed *Monf. de Torcy*, and deliver'd a further Memorial, acquainting him with the Account I had. But I found *Monf. de Chamilly* had not sent any, since your Lordship went from hence; nor did he then say more, than that he was not satisfied any belonged to the *English*, but only some few that were almost decayed.

The seventh; As for *Cooper's* Ship, nothing more can be done but what you will see by the Answer. *Monf. de Torcy* said, that by the Judgment he had ten Thousand Livres given for the damage of the Ship, besides the eight Thousand five Hundred. I did mention also *Pierre Perault* for *Beckford*, so as he might not think that matter was laid aside. *Monf. Tallard* will soon be here, and then we agreed to discourse farther about it. I do not find *Monf. de Torcy* shews any concern to have those two, your Lordship mentioned, released.

The *Danish* and *Swedish* Envoys have made their Applications to the King here, and both of them have spoke to me, endeavouring to shew their Masters are in the right, concerning the Duke of *Holstein*. I found by the *Swede* that the Answer he had received from this Court was, That the King would do nothing but in Concert with the King of *England*. I thought fit to acquaint your Lordship with this, in case you should intend to send me any Orders.

I desire you will let His Majesty know, that I have made the Compliments as he ordered me, to Monsieur and Madame upon the Birth of the Prince of *Lorain*, which they returned with civil Expressions, as how much they were obliged to His Majesty, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Oct. 29. 1699.

I Suppose this will find your Lordship safely arrived in *England*, and I hope you received mine of the 5th instant in *Holland*, wherein I gave your Lordship the fullest Account I could get of *Obryan*. Since that I have received Informations of other Matters, which it may be for his Majesty's Service you should know. I am told that one Captain *Barry* arrived at *St. Germain* about ten Days ago from *Scotland*, by the way of *Holland*, with Dis-

Dispatches from the D— of H—, containing in substance, that the D— will engage to make a Party in the Parliament of that Kingdom, strong enough to break a great many of the Forces now on foot there, and to manage the Matter so as to leave none standing, but what shall be commanded by Officers in the late King's Interest: particularly he brings assurances from Colonel Row, who commands a Regiment of Fusiliers there, that whenever there is occasion, he and his Regiment will be ready to act for the late King's Service. In order to discover D— of H—'s Intrigues, I am told your Lordship may have a fit Opportunity by seizing one *John Maire* a *Scotchman*, who was his Agent at that Court for some time, for which he was allowed a Pension of Two Hundred Pounds a Year; but that being ill paid, he went into *England*, and having got it settled to his mind, he still continues there in great confidence with the D—. It is said you may find him every Night at *Mills's*, formerly mentioned, who keeps an Alehouse in *Charles-street, Westminster*, or at Mr. *Alexander's* the Mercer's in *Covent-Garden*.

I am also to acquaint your Lordship that *Bryerly*, one of the Assassins, who had formerly some thoughts of going into *England*, and discovering what he knew, in hopes of obtaining his Pardon, and getting a Recompense, continues still in great Necessity, and is said to be in the same Resolution. Some Steps were made by Mr. *Prior* in that Matter, when he was here, of which he can inform your Lordship; and in case it may be judged for His Majesty's Service to have him come over, I am assured the promise of a Pardon and some Reward will tempt him. Therefore I desire your Lordship would send me his Majesty's Directions thereupon, which I shall contrive to perform in the safest Manner for him, and the Person who is to go between us.

I have received a Letter from Mr. *Tard* of the 12th instant, just taking notice of several disaffected Persons that pass into *Ireland*, upon some Design (as it is thought) against the Government. To this I can only say at present, that I doubt not but several venture to go thither rather than starve here. Some of these have made application to me to obtain licence; but I cannot learn that there is any Design formed against that Kingdom. However, I shall be vigilant to discover what they are a doing at *St. Germain's* in relation thereunto. Neither do I hear that there is any Project yet against *England* or *Scotland*, as he mentions, any more than that of caballing in the latter, in order to reduce the Forces, as is already hinted. I hope in a short time to be able to give your Lordship fuller Satisfaction in these Matters. In the mean time I send all I know. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Oct. 31. 1699.

I Should have acquainted your Lordship by the last Post of an Accident that happened to me the Tuesday before at Mons. *de Torcy's* Apartment; but that I was willing to consider a little, and see what the People's Opinion was here of such an extraordinary Proceeding. When I shall name you the Ambassador of *Portugal*, the Man is so well known to you, that nothing almost of what he does is to be regarded: but in this Case I think I should be to blame, should I not shew some Resentment. Your Lordship knows that among the Ambassadors of Crown'd Heads, they had the Civility one for the other; that whoever came first to Mons. *de Torcy*, went into the Room before him that came last. Having a good many things to speak about, I came there early, and soon after came the *Portugal* Ambassador, who surprised me when I saw, that as soon as the Door was open, he ran as fast as he could into the Room, with a Manner, as if he had gained a great Point of me, having first planted himself nearest the Door. Several Ministers that were there seemed to wonder at such a Proceeding. As soon as I saw Mons. *de Torcy*, I ac-

quainted

quainted him with it, who said he did not understand himself in so doing; but that it was the last time he would be there, and that he was soon to take his leave. I assure your Lordship I was never of a humour to make Disputes; and I must confess that I did not think that a Man, who has been here so long, could be capable of such an Action, else I should have prevented it, let the Consequence of it have been what it would. I think there can be no Competition between *England* and that Crown, they having yielded to *Spain*; and when my Lord *Preston* and other Envoys were here, the Envoys of *Portugal* never pretended to take place of them. This Action is now much discoursed of here, and I find it is expected I should resent it in some manner; and the best I can think of at present is, that when I make my Entry, which is fixed for the 15th of next Month N. S. I do intend not to notify my Arrival to him, he having all the while I have been here never sent a Compliment to me, or offered to visit me, as all others have done. I have so much right on my side, that was he to stay any time here, it ought to be resented in a higher Manner, since after this we could never meet but must have Disputes. I did imagine he would have made me some excuse, if he had not done it designedly: but I don't hear any thing of him. I shall expect your Lordship's Directions, tho' I hope what I propose will not be denied me, since His Majesty's Honour is concerned, and I myself, whilst I have the Character of his Ambassador, will suffer very much, should they see me so easy in passing by an Action done in so publick a manner.

Monf. *Meyercroon* has not yet notified the Death of the King of *Denmark*, tho' he has received a full Power for that purpose: but this Court does expect he should have new Credentials. I am informed privately that the Court of *Denmark* would willingly have avoided it, 'till the Title of Majesty, which has formerly been in agitation, was agreed on; for hitherto they have wrote in *Latin* from the King of *Denmark* to the *French* King *Serenitas*, and this King wrote to him in *French*, *Vous*. I cannot tell whether this point will be granted by this Court. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 31. 1699.

I Shall now begin to trouble you often, believing you are settled in the Office, which will be another sort of Life than that in *France*: but when I consider you have so worthy a Person, and so good a Friend to act under, I then think nothing can stand in competition with it. I shall be every day more sensible of the loss of you here, which I hope you will make up to me, by letting me hear often from you. I have acquainted my Lord *Jersey* with what passed in relation to me and the *Portugal* Ambassador in the Apartment of Monf. *de Torcy*. He is going away, else it would be impossible but there must be further Disputes of that nature. The first Opportunity I have, I shall certainly return his rudeness. When you can do it conveniently, put my Lord *Jersey* in mind of what we have often discoursed about, in relation to the Affairs of *France*, and what he was so kind as to say he would prevent if possible, when I had the honour of seeing him last. You can easily imagine I shall not be able to obtain any thing of this Court, if Matters of Moment must be only transacted by Monsieur *de Tallard*. Not that I am desirous of knowing more than what he would think proper, in the Post I am in. I need not tell you that as a great Expence is necessary here, so an Esteem for the Person is as much; and I flatter myself I shall not forfeit it, unless this Court finds I am only here to make a shew.

Monf. *de Tallard* is daily expected, and it may be will still make his Complaints, as formerly, of the Delays he meets with in *England*. If so, I can now answer him much better, by what I have seen since my coming here.

The Day of Parade is near, and with the help of the Advice you gave me it will go well. The Calash is done, and I like it; tho' I assure you the Coaches I brought from *England* do exceed it in gilding, painting, and carving. All that see them do own, and the *French* confess they cannot come up to our gilding, tho' they pretend theirs will last longer. I wish you was to be here for a few Days. The best Apartment is now *a la Françoise*, Velvet and Damask Chairs with gold Galloon, the Frames gilt, Marble-Tables with large Looking-Glasses, &c. I found it was absolutely necessary, and when I was a doing it, I would do it well. The Chapel, which I have enlarged into the Garden, looks very handsome.

I cannot finish this without my Wishes that you may succeed in all things for your Advantage, &c. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Marly, 3 November 1699.

AS your Excellency let me know that you would be glad of a speedy Answer to the Memorial of the Prince of *Vaudemont*, which you deliver'd to me on Tuesday last; I thought to please you by not losing time to give an account of it to the King. The Decision of that Affair was not difficult, as soon as we looked on the Decree of 1687. It is founded on the Rule observed in the Kingdom, in regard to the Confiscations, which do not permit a Creditor to cause himself to be paid out of the confiscated Estates, whilst the Confiscation subsists. That of the Rents, which is what now is under Consideration, has not ceased 'till at the Peace of *Ryswick*; so at the same time the Prince of *Vaudemont* has re-enter'd into the enjoying of those Rents in their first Condition, and by consequence subject to the Debts for which they were mortgaged. His Majesty could not change those Orders, without acting against Justice. And I am persuaded that your Excellency is very far from asking any thing that is contrary to it. I pray you to believe that I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

The Translation of the Decree of the Council of the King,
April 19. 1687.

THE King having caused to be presented to him the Decree given in his Council *April* the 6th, 1675, by which his Majesty had ordered, that the Sum of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Seventy-three Livres, One Sol, and Eight Deniers, the Amount of two parts of the Rents, which the Princess of *Lisbonne* had a Right to raise on the Domains and Salt-Works of the County of *Burgundy*, which the Prince of *Vaudemont* by the right he had from the late Duke of *Lorain*, had transferred to her, should be employed in the Expences of the said County for the Year 1676, and the following Years; in consequence of this Decree, those two Rents have been employed in the said State 'till the Year 1686 inclusive: And his Majesty being informed that the Arrears of the said Rents have been seized by the Creditors of the said Duke of *Lorain*, whose Debts his Majesty is not obliged to clear, it being necessary to provide for this, his Majesty having heard the Report of *Monf. de Pelletier*, of the Ordinary Council of his Majesty and General Comptroller of his Finances, has, in his Council, without regarding the said Decree of the 6th of *April* 1675, which His Majesty breaks and annuls, ordered, and does now order, That the said Sum of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-three Livres, one Sol, and eight Deniers, employed in the State of the Charges assigned on the Domains and Salt-Works

of the County of *Burgundy* of the Year 1686, for the Arrears of the said Rents, shall be rejected from the present Year 1687, and the following Years; and that the Arrears of the said Rents, seized by the Creditors of the said late Duke of *Lorain*, shall be immediately paid into the hands of the Keeper of the Royal Treasury, or to the Bearer of the Acquittances, by the Receiver-General and Farmers of the Domains and Salt-works of the said County, who have the Funds of them in their hands, and are accountable for the Money, and the Affairs of his Majesty; and if they make this Payment, they will be duly discharged by virtue of this present Decree, producing the Acquittance to the Keeper of the Royal Treasury.

Letter of Mons. DE TORCY, &c.

Translated out of French.

According to the Letter of *M. de Torcy*, the Motive of the Decree of 1687 is what decides the Contents of the Memorial presented by his Excellency the Ambassador of *England*; and that Motive is founded, says this Letter, on the Rule observed in the Kingdom, in regard to the Confiscations, which does not suffer the Creditor to cause himself to be paid out of the confiscated Goods, whilst the Confiscation subsists, and that the Confiscation of the Rents in question did not cease but by the Peace of *Ryswick*.

This Foundation pre-supposes an Error in Fact; for in the Year 1687, there was neither a Confiscation nor War, and even there could be no Confiscation, because *Madame de Lislebonne* enjoyed those Rents by virtue of a Transfer made to her. So the Confiscation could not be the Motive of the Decree of 1687, but that Motive was taken by the Creditors of the late Duke of *Lorain* for what his Majesty has declared he is not obliged to pay. The reading of the Decree explains it clearly.

The Case which now presents itself is the same; and whilst the Motive of the Decree of the Year 1687 must decide it, and as that Decree was given for no other end but to acquit the Rents of the Debts of the late Duke of *Lorain*, the same Considerations must now take place.

The Letter suppose, besides, that these Rents have been pledged for the Debts of the late Duke of *Lorain*; which was never done.

And at last the King has only re-established the Rents of the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and has refused those of many other Creditors, who had such Rents on *Burgundy*; which shows that it is a Favour, which was granted on the Recommendation of the King of *England*.

It cannot then be said that it is an Act of Justice, otherwise all the other Rents ought to be equally paid, which is not done; and thus this would be contrary to the Interest of his most Christian Majesty.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 23. 1699. O.S.

I Have received your Lordship's Letter of the 28th of *October*. Before you receive this, Mr. *Prior* will be with you. It is His Majesty's Desire that you discourse the Business of the Partition-Treaty with Mr. *Prior*, who has already Knowledge of it; and according to the Account your Lordship gives next of it, you shall receive His Majesty's further Directions. What else your Letters contain, I must beg leave to put off the answering it to another time. I am with Respect, &c.

JERSEY.

The Parliament will be prorogued to-morrow to the 16th of next Month, and then meet to do Business.

To

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 4. 1699.

I Had received advice from Mr. *Tard* (as I hinted to your Lordship in my last) that there was reason to believe that some Design was on foot, by the many Persons that daily came over. I am now assured that the only Hopes they have at *St. Germain's* is in the present Conjunction of Affairs in *Scotland* by the Disappointment of *Darien*, &c. It is certain they have had under debate, whether they should not send some Person of Note with Proposals to the most considerable Men there: but they are not come to that, nor any other Resolution.

The Account I had of *Cosmo's* going to *England*, proves a Mistake. He is still here. *Glance* the Peruke-maker, whose departure from hence Mr. *Tard* desired to have notice of, is gone for *England*. He came from *Brussels*, and was at *St. Germain's*; but being little regarded, he was not trusted with any thing as I can learn.

Monf. *de Tallard* is come, and acquainted me of His Majesty's Health, and that he had a fair Wind. I understand he is to be some time at *Marly*, and about the end of this Month he is to be with you again. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Madrid, Nov. 5. 1699.

BY the inclosed Copy of the Complaint I have made here against the Marquis *de Canales's* Proceedings, your Excellency will judge I have seen his insolent and seditious Paper. They readily received mine, which I much doubted they would not, and it was sent within an hour hither from the *Escorial* to the Council of State; this was the Day before yesterday in the Morning, and they have been in close Consults ever since. I have Advices from several hands, and some from Persons of the first Rank, that the Resolution will probably be moderate, and that they will disown their Ambassador so far at least as to the brutality of his Expressions, and it may be as to the Substance, now they find the World generally cry out against the folly, as well as insolence of it: Tho' I am satisfied he had orders to do the thing, but not in that manner. This makes me willing to give them time to bethink themselves before they run on headlong into Mischiefs, against which they are so ill provided, and it is a latitude my Orders allow me.

Besides that, if I can prevent a breach, and procure His Majesty honourable Satisfaction, I shall believe I do both Him and my Country good Service. If, after all, my good Intentions prove ineffectual, as there is some Reason to fear they may, considering the Temper and prejudicate Passions of the present ruling Ministers; I shall return very well satisfied by having done what I think my Duty, and the rather that it will give me the Advantage and Honour of kissing your hands, and receiving your Commands at *Paris*, which is what I am very ambitious of; and I am with the greatest Respect, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

The English Translation of Mr. STANHOPE's Paper to Don ANTONIO DE UBILLA, delivered at the Escorial, the 3d of November 1699. N. S.

DON *Alexander Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of the King of *Great Britain*, kisses the hands of Don *Antonio de Ubilla*, and says that he has Orders from the King his Master, immediately to pass to the Royal Knowledge of his Catholick Majesty the just Motive of Complaint given him by a Paper,

Paper, which the Secretary of the Marquis *de Canales*, by order of his Master, delivered to the Lords Justices of *England* in *London*, of which the adjoined is a true Copy, and from whose Contents, besides the rude and provoking Language, it is manifest the Design of it was to stir up Sedition in His Kingdoms, by appealing to the Parliament and People of *England* against His Majesty; which is to own them Superiors to the Royal Person, than which nothing can be more absurd and contrary to the Constitution of the Government of the Kingdom of *England*, and is what the said Marquis *de Canales*, Ambassador from his Catholick Majesty, neither ought, nor could be ignorant of, after so many Years Residence in it. Notwithstanding which, the Paper is full of contumelious Terms to His Majesty's Person, making use of several artifices, of insinuations and threats, purposely to breed a Misunderstanding and Dissension betwixt His Majesty and His Subjects; an Attempt, which no Sovereign Prince can tolerate in his Dominions: and therefore the King of *Great Britain*, his Master, found himself necessitated to cut off short, as soon as possible, a mischief which by the industry of the Marquis went on spreading itself daily, by ordering he should be required to go out of His Kingdoms: and, finally, the said Paper being both in its Expressions and Substance, by its Example, affrontive to the Majesty and Sacredness of all Kings, the King of *Great Britain*, his Master, does not believe it possible that the Marquis writ or published it by the Orders of his Catholick Majesty: but on the contrary persuades himself, that this his Resentment will be much to his Royal Satisfaction, as made for the common Cause of all Kings; and that Don *Alexander Stanhope* will hope that Don *Antonio de Ubilla* pass all this to the Royal Knowledge of his Catholick Majesty, whom God preserve; remaining Don *Antonio's* most humble and affectionate Servant.

Madrid the 2d of *Novemb.* 1699. N. S.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 26. 1699. O. S.

I Acknowledged by the last Post the Receipt of your Lordship's Letter of the 28th of this Month, but could not then make any Answer to the heads of Business therein mentioned. I have since laid them before the King, and have received His Directions to acquaint your Lordship,

That as to the first Head, concerning the *French* Protestants taken out of the *Cooper's Good-Will*; His Majesty would have you manage it so, as not to insist upon it too much, or wholly abandon it; but to take such Opportunities as shall appear to your Lordship most seasonable to touch upon the Matter in your Conversation with *Monf. de Torcy*, and try what can be yet done for these poor People.

For what relates to the Daughters of *Mr. Fleming*, I make no doubt but your Lordship will continue to do all you can for them. There has been put into my hands another Paper concerning their Case, and I trouble your Lordship with a Copy of it.

I know not what can be said further to your Lordship about the *Dantzickers*, and the other Matters upon which you have received as yet no satisfactory Answer, than that it must be left to your Lordship to move therein, as you judge proper, according to the Directions already sent you.

As to the *Holstein* Business, I send your Lordship a Copy of the Letter *Mr. Secretary Vernon* has, by his Majesty's Order, wrote to *Mr. Cresset*; that so your Lordship may speak the same Language to the Ministers of *Denmark* and *Sweden* at the *French* Court, as likewise to *Monf. de Torcy*, as the Discourse of this Matter may happen to arise between you; and your Lordship may also take notice that His Majesty has been informed of the most Christian King's Answer to the *Swedish* Envoy, that he would do nothing in the *Holstein* Affair but in concert with his Majesty, and to return the Compliment. You may let *Monf. de Torcy* know, that his Majesty is desirous likewise

likewise to concert Matters with the most Christian King for preserving the quiet of the North.

I just now received your Lordship's Letter of the $\frac{1}{3}$ instant, but the King being gone to *Hampton-Court*, I must defer answering it 'till the next Post. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

Extract of Mr. Secretary VERNON's Letter to Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Whitehall, Oct. 24. 1699.

I Have received your Letters of the 13th and 17th instant, and have laid them before His Majesty, who supposes the Duke of *Holstein* is by this time disposed to go further than his last Declaration, and that he is willing not only to cease going on with the Fortifications, but that the *Swedish* Troops should likewise retire out of *Holstein*; and His Majesty hoped that the Duke complying so far, the King of *Denmark* would be willing that the Conferences of *Pinenberg* should be renewed, without insisting on any other preliminary Conditions. It would therefore be a surprise to His Majesty if the *Danish* Troops should march into *Holstein*, and have orders to demolish the new Works; since this may be looked upon as an Aggression, His Majesty would have you use your Endeavours to prevent it; and if they still proceed to such *Voye de fait*, His Majesty would have you declare against it in His Name. His Majesty observes that the Duke of *Holstein* would tie up the Mediators to come to a conclusion by the end of *January*, but that His Majesty thinks too short a time, and believes it ought to be prolonged to the beginning of *March*. He would not have the Mediators think themselves streightned, and he shall look upon it as a very good Work, if a Composure can be made so soon.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 5. 1699.

MR. *Prior* informed your Lordship by Wednesday's Post of his Arrival here. He having explained to me the Subject upon which he was sent, I wrote to *Monf. de Torcy* the inclosed Letter, which I send your Lordship, in order to procure an Audience, the Court being at *Marly*, and resolved to stay there 'till Saturday sevensnight. The first part of my Letter was, as your Lordship will perceive, to acknowledge one that I had received that Morning, upon Prince *Vaudemont's* Affair. I likewise send you that Letter inclosed. I am sorry I have no better Answer to his Business, and shall expect your further Directions how I am to proceed in it. I affected speaking of it in the beginning of my Letter to *Monf. de Torcy*, without mentioning the other Affair, that it might not seem that I desired an Audience with so great an Impatience: Tho' I believe your Lordship will see that I pressed it as much as I could, without giving *Monf. de Torcy* occasion to guess into the Reason of my asking it. The Answer I have received is, that the King has made it an establish'd Rule not to give audience to any publick Minister whilst he is at *Marly*. And this Answer he gave in such full Terms, and as if he had mentioned the thing to the King, that I think I ought not to press it any further.

Another ill Accident has happen'd in the thing, *viz.* *Monf. de Torcy* will be here on Tuesday next, and it will be difficult enough for me to see him, without having him question me a good deal upon the Subject of the Audience. I shall endeavour, as well as I can, not to let him into the Matter, or disoblige him, tho' the latter will not be very easy, considering his Temper.

My Entry and Audiences are fixed for Sunday sevensnight, and the Days following. Your Lordship knows I am to be a Prisoner in the *Hotel des*

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Ambassadeurs. I will try if I can get this private Audience on Saturday sevennight, at Night, that being, as I have said, the Day the Court returns from *Marly*; tho' if I cannot obtain this, I do not see I can have it 'till the Thursday after.

What Instructions your Lordship may have to honour me with in the mean time, you will be pleased to send me by this Express. I hope I need not say I will use my utmost Endeavours on this Occasion as His Majesty's Service commands, and as becomes me.

MANCHESTER.

To Monsieur DE TORCY.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 4. 1699.

I Have received the Letter you honoured me with of the 3d. I am very much obliged to you for your Exactness in every thing. You will nevertheless do well to prepare yourself to be farther importuned upon that Subject, for we expect every thing from the Goodness of the King.

I have received an Order by an Express from *England*, by which I am commanded to pray you to ask, as soon as you can, a private Audience of the King. I know very well that it is not according to custom to have one during the King's Stay at *Marly*: but I think myself sure of it by the facility his Majesty shews to receive every thing that comes in particular from the King my Master. You will have the Goodness to say a word about it to the King. As his Majesty designs to remain at *Marly* 'till Saturday come sevennight, and as my publick Entry and Audience must follow upon it; I should be very sorry to be put off 'till that time. I am with great Respect, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 30. 1699. O. S.

I Acknowledged in my last to your Lordship the Receipt of your Letter of the 31st of this Month, N. S. and have since acquainted the King with what happened between you and the Ambassador of *Portugal*, and that your Lordship, to shew your Resentment of such a Proceeding, did intend at your publick Entry, not to notify your Arrival to him, as you would do to the other Ambassadors; which His Majesty does approve of, in case the said Ambassador of *Portugal* does not before that time send to your Lordship an excuse for what has passed. I wonder Mons. de Torcy does not concern himself so far, as to see that your Lordship had right done you in a matter of this nature, which happened in his own Apartment. While I was with the King at *Hampton-Court*, I received your Lordship's Letter of the 4th of November, N. S. I do not omit to lay before the King the several Informations I receive from your Lordship, and desire you will continue to give us all the light you can in those Matters, in which all possible Care will be taken here. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

P. S. Upon my return this Morning here from *Windsor*, I met with your Express, with your Letter of the 6th of November, N. S. I am sorry your private Audience is put off for so long a time. Till the Success of it is known, you can have no further Instructions in that Affair.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 11. 1699.

I Told your Lordship by the Express, that it was impossible for me to obtain an Audience, whilst the Court continues at *Marly*. Mons. de Torcy being in town to give Audiences to the publick Ministers here, as he usually does

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on Tuesdays at *Versailles*: I waited on him. He began with making me excuses that I had not an Audience at *Marly*, that it was an establish'd Rule which could not be altered in any case, for the Inconveniencies which would happen from other Ministers expecting the same thing.

Upon his asking me the Subject of the Audience I desired, which your Lordship saw by my Letter of the 4th, I did not explain to him; I thought fit to tell him so much, that it related to the Treaty of *Spain*, of which Affair the King my Master desired a happy Conclusion. He would have entered into the particulars of this Affair, and let fall that it was the method here, that the Minister of this Court should be informed of what one would desire in an Audience; that the King of *France* being apprised of it, might be the better able to give an Answer. I told him in general Terms, that whatever I should say to the King, was in order to repeat the Assurances of Friendship and good Correspondence in which the King my Master will continue with this Court, as well on this Occasion, as in all other Matters. And thus much I said to him, because, as your Lordship knows, it would not have been well to disoblige him, or keep That intirely from him, which he must have known, with all its Particulars, an Hour after. We parted thus with all imaginable Civility, he promising to procure me an Audience, if he could, for Saturday. I thought proper to tell him that Mr. *Prior* was here, since it was impossible but that he should have heard it, and he might have thought that I was not very fair with him, if I had conceal'd it. I again prest him about Prince *Vaudemont's* Affair. He continues to say, that the King granted those Rents to that Prince, and could not with justice give him more than the Title the King had. That if there be any Incumbrances upon these Rents, it must be left to the Law to decide it. I shall see Prince *Vaudemont's* Secretary, and acquaint him with the Positiveness of this Resolution.

After having waited some time to see if the *Portugal* Ambassador would take any notice of the Incident that happened at *Versailles*, and having heard nothing from him, I thought it proper to desire Mons. *Vrybergen* to go to him from me with Mr. *Stanyan*, and ask an Explication of what that Ambassador meant by such a Proceeding. After a great deal of Discourse, he said that he had not heard of any Rule established amongst Ambassadors in their going in to Mons. *de Torcy*, that he was in haste when he went into his Audience, and did not do it with any intent to affront me; and since, he has wrote to Mons. *Vrybergen* this Letter, of which I send your Lordship a Copy, which I think I may take for a sufficient Reparation. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Nov. 12 1699. N. S.

MY last to your Excellency was this Day sevensnight by the Ordinary. This goes a by-way, so I do a little doubt its coming safe, however would not omit the Opportunity, as not being likely to have another, of paying you my Respects from *Madrid*. The next Day after my last, which was *November 5*. I had certain notice from several hands the King had taken his Resolution of ordering me to be gone; whereupon at Midnight I dispatched to the Escorial my Agent, with the Paper, of which the inclosed is a Copy. The Secretary of the *Despacho Universal*, Don *Antonio de Ubilla*, would not receive it, but was willing to hear the Contents by word of mouth, and that was as much as I desired. Two Days after, the Conductor, or Master of the Ceremonies, came to order me in the King his Master's Name to be gone out of the *Spanish* Dominions within eighteen Days, and not to stir out of my House 'till I should begin my Journey. Your Excellency has the Answer I gave the Conductor in the same Sheet with the former. I have every day since solicited my Passports, being ready to be gone whenever they give them me; and am told the Reason of the Delay is, to know by next Post, whether
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any Passports, and in what form they were given to the Marquis *de Canales* in *London*, that they may exactly imitate the same with me. I hope however to begin my Journey in four Days, and in less than a Month to kiss your Excellency's Hands in *Paris*. His Catholick Majesty has not been very well lately, which is all laid to the poor Queen's door, with whom he now beds constantly, tho' I fear to very little purpose. The hurry of my Affairs gives me very little leisure to inquire after others; so have nothing more now to add, but that I am with the greatest Respect, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

The Translation of Mr. STANHOPE's Paper to Don ANTONIO DE UBILLA, expressing the King his Master's Orders to return home, and desiring his Catholick Majesty's Passports.

DON *Alexander Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of Great Britain, kisses the hands of Don *Antonio de Ubilla*, and says, That having already represented to his Catholick Majesty, whom God preserve, the Motives that necessitated the King his Master to send the Declaration he lately did, to the Marquis *de Canales*; and Don *Alexander Stanhope* having no other Orders but to return to His Majesty's Royal Presence, as soon as possible, he communicates this to Don *Antonio de Ubilla*, that he may please to put it into the Royal Knowledge of his Catholick Majesty, whom he beseeches at the same time, with all humble Submission, to order such Passports to be given him, as will be necessary for such a Voyage; and Don *Alexander Stanhope* remains Don *Antonio de Ubilla's* most humble and affectionate Servant.

Madrid, Nov. 6. 1699.

Mr. STANHOPE's Answer to the Conductor of Ambassadors, when he came with a Message from the King to order him to leave the Spanish Dominions in eighteen Days, and not to stir out of his House, 'till he should begin his Journey.

Translated out of Spanish.

YOU will please to tell his Catholick Majesty from me, that I will punctually comply in all that you have intimated to me by his Royal Order, because in so doing I shall obey the Orders of the King my Master, as his Catholick Majesty cannot but have been informed by Don *Antonio de Ubilla*, to whom I communicated it two Days ago by my Secretary at the Escorial, desiring at the same time Passports necessary for my Voyage; that I am glad to see their two Majesties Minds are so unanimous, and desire they may continue the same in all other Matters.

To Mons. DE TORCY.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 12. 1699.

SUFFER that I own the Obligation I have to you, for the facility I meet with in regard to the Audience for Monday, as you know. There will be so many People with me, that I shall scarce be able to get rid of them. It may be therefore, if you please, on Sunday Morning; and I will not fail to wait on you at your Apartment at eight of the Clock, and there to assure you that none is with more attachment than myself, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Sunday

Sunday, the 15th of November, his EXCELLENCY had an Audience of the King at Versailles: The Substance of which is as follows.

S I R E,

LE Roy mon Maistre ayant trouvé que Monf. de Tallard a été obligé par ses instructions de quitter la Hollande avant que d'avoir signé le Traité qui a été projeté avec Vostre Majesté, à l'égard de la Succession d'Espagne: Sa Majesté m'a donné ordre de demander cette Audience particulière pour Vous assurer, Sire, que le Roy continue dans les memes Sentiments ou il a toujours été touchant ce Traité. Vostre Majesté sait fort bien les bons Offices que le Roy a employé pour faire entrer les Impériaux la dedans. Il a aussi fait tout ce qu'il a pu pour faire agréer l'Affaire aux Etats. Sa Majesté continuera d'en agir de meme. Pour ce qui regarde la signature du Roy; il a fait venir le Comte de Jersey express en Hollande pour cet effet, & je ne doute point que le Comte de Tallard n'ait dit à vostre Majesté combien de fois le Roy mon maistre s'est offert à signer, pour faire voir qu'il étoit prêt à faire tout ce qui pourra dépendre de luy.

Vostre Majesté me permettra d'estre un peu long, en Vous disant en quelle maniere cette affaire a passé, afin que Vostre Majesté soit parfaitement éclairée qu'il n'y a point de changement dans l'intention du Roy mon Maistre. L'Affaire fut proposée aux Etats de la Province de Hollande, comme à ceux qui y étoient le plus intéressés, car on n'a point appréhendé qu'on trouveroit de l'obstacle ailleurs, si on avoit le consentement de cette Province. C'étoit aussi le meilleur moyen pour faire moins esclater le secret de cette Affaire.

Sire, Si on Vous a représenté que le Roy mon Maistre s'auroit pu servir du Credit qu'il a auprès les Etats pour faire conclure ce Traité; j'avouerois que le Roy a beaucoup de Credit dans ce Pais: mais aussi ce Credit se conforme toujours aux manieres & coutumes du Pais, & quand les Etats

n'au-

S I R,

THE King my Master, having found that Monf. de Tallard was, by his Instructions, obliged to quit *Holland* before he signed the Treaty which was projected with your Majesty, relating to the Succession of *Spain*: His Majesty has ordered me to desire this private Audience, to assure you, Sir, that the King continues in the same Sentiments he was always of, in regard to that Treaty. Your Majesty knows very well the good offices employ'd by the King my Master to make the Imperialists enter into it. He has also done all he could to make the States like it. His Majesty continues to act as he did. As to what concerns the King's signing it, he caused the Earl of *Jersey* to come into *Holland* expressly for this end; and I doubt not but the Count of *Tallard* will have told your Majesty, how often the King my Master has offered himself to sign it, to shew that he was ready to do all that depended upon him.

Your Majesty will give me leave to be a little long, in telling you how this Affair has passed, that so your Majesty may have it perfectly cleared up, that there is no Alteration in the Intention of the King my Master. The business was proposed to the States of the Province of *Holland*, as to those who were the most interested in it; for it was not apprehended that any obstacles should be met with elsewhere, if the consent of that Province was had. That was also the best way to make the Secret of this Affair less apt to be divulged.

Sir, If it has been represented to you, that the King my Master might have made use of the Credit he has with the States to cause this Treaty to be concluded; I will own that the King has a great deal of Credit in that Country: but as this Credit does always conform itself to the Manners and Customs of the Country, and

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n'auroient point trouve d'objection, l'Affaire n'auroit pu estre achevée sans le consentement de chaque Ville, ce qu'on ne pourra pas avoir en moins de tems qu'en quinze jours ou trois semaines, comme le Pensionnaire & le Comte de Portland ont fait entendre a Monsieur de Tallard. Mais puisque ses ordres ne l'ont point permis d'attendre la conclusion de l'Affaire; le Roy mon Maistre espere que Vostre Majesté renouvellera ses ordres a Monsf. de Tallard, ou enverra des instructions a Monsf. de Bonrepos pour tacher de lever tout obstacle, afin que le Project du Traité ait son effect.

if the States had found no objection, the business could not have been ended without the consent of every City, which could not be had in less time than a Month or three Weeks, as the Pensionary and the Earl of Portland have given Count Tallard to understand. But whilst his Orders did not give him leave to wait for the conclusion of the Affair, the King my Master hopes that your Majesty will renew your Orders to Monsf. de Tallard, or will send orders to Monsieur de Bonrepos, to endeavour to remove all obstacles, that so the Project of the Treaty may have its effect.

The French KING's Answer.

J'Avoue que j'estois un peu surpris que l'Affaire ne fut pas finie à l'expiration du tems, & avant que le Roy vostre Maistre partit pour l'Angleterre. Je suis satisfait des Assurances que vous venés de donner de sa part, qu'il continue tousjours dans la meme intention; & j'espere qu'il continuera encor de contribuer tout ce qu'il peut auprès les Etats. Pour moy je suis tousjours dans le meme sentiment & j'agis avec la mesme sincerité. J'en verray Monsf. Tallard au premier jour avec les Instructions necessaires.

IOwn I was a little surprized that the Affair was not finished at the expiration of the time, and before the King your Master did set out for England. I am satisfied with the Assurances which you now give me from Him, that He continues still in the same intention; and I hope he will still continue to contribute all he can with the States. As for me, I am still of the same mind, and I act with the same sincerity. I will soon send Monsf. de Tallard with the necessary Instructions.

WHEN I said, that the Reason the States of Holland were not sooner acquainted with it, was, that it could not be proposed to them till it was known whether the Imperialists would come in or no: The King said, with warmth, *On leur a donné assés de tems, & meme trop*: They have had time enough given them, and even too much. As to Count Tallard's having orders to come away; the King took no notice of it, nor that he had been informed of every step. Upon my saying, *Monsieur de Tallard a esté informé de tous les pas qu'on a fait dans cette Affaire, & meme a vus tous les Lettres que Monsieur Hop escrivoit de Vienne au Pensionnaire*: Monsieur de Tallard has been informed of all that has been done in this Affair, and has even seen all the Letters which Mr. Hop wrote to the Pensionary; and it being first proposed to the Province of Holland, it seemed that he was satisfied in those points: I took occasion to see if Monsieur de Bonrepos had any Orders, saying, *Que le Roy mon Maistre voudroit bien que Vostre Majesté soit informée par Monsieur de Tallard, ou Monsieur de Bonrepos, de tout ce qui se passe, & meme les Estats auront tousjours un grand egard pour tout ce qui vient de la part de Vostre Majesté*: That the King my Master would desire that your Majesty was informed by Monsieur de Tallard, or Monsieur de Bonrepos, of all that passes; and even the States will always have a great regard for all that comes from your Majesty. The King answered, *Dans cette Affair je me suis fié seulement à Monsieur de Tallard, & je sçay bien que Roy vostre Maistre a plus de credit que moy en*

Hollande

Hollande dans cette occasion: In this Affair I confided only in Monsieur de Tallard; and I know very well that the King your Master has more credit than I in Holland on this occasion. When I said, *Que le Roy l'avoit recommandé au soin du Pensionnaire, & que nous esperions que les difficultés estoient telles, qu'on pouvoit les surmonter*; That the King had recommended it to the care of the Pensionary, and that we hoped that the Difficulties were such as might be surmounted: The King answered, *Qu'il l'esperoit aussi, & qu'il s'imaginoit que quelqu'un de la part des Estats devoit venir en Angleterre, & que le Traité y seroit signé*: That he hoped it also; and that he imagined that somebody would come from the States into England, and that the Treaty would be signed there. The King said also, *Comme vous sçavez je l'ay sous la main du Roy vostre Maistre, comme il l'a sous la mienne*: As you know, I have it under the Hand of the King your Master, as He has it under mine. Then I said, *J'ay aussi, Sire, des ordres particulieres de dire à vostre Majesté de la part du Roy, comment il s'est dechargé de sa Parole, & comme il a agi en cette occasion a cœur ouvert, & avec toute la sincerité possible, ainsi il continuera de le faire en tout autres occasions qui scouroient contribuer à l'affermissement de l'Amitié, & de la bonne Correspondance avec Vostre Majesté*: I have also, Sir, particular Orders to tell your Majesty from the King, that as He has acted on this occasion with an open Heart, and with all possible Sincerity, so he will continue to act on all other occasions that may be able to contribute to the strengthening the Friendship and the good Correspondence with your Majesty. The King answered, *Vous pouvez assurer le Roy vostre Maistre que j'en feray de meme*: You may assure the King your Master that I will do the same.

Mr. Prior set out on the said 17th of November, 1699, with this Account of the Audience for London.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Novemb. 7. 1699.

I Have acquainted the King with the Contents of Monsieur de Torcy's Letter, dated the 3d of this Month, N. S. about Prince Vaudemont's business; and His Majesty would have you continue to do him all the service you can on this occasion.

I send your Lordship a Memorial concerning the Prince of Monbelliard, whose Minister at Paris will wait upon you about it. When he does, your Lordship may tell him, you have the King's Directions to employ your Offices on his behalf; and as you have an opportunity, your Lordship may accordingly speak to Monsieur de Torcy to recommend his business.

I hope your Lordship has been able to do something for Pierre Peraut, a French Protestant in the Galleys, whilst Count Tallard is now at Paris, according to Monsieur Torcy's promise. His Wife solicites me continually, and is a great Object of Charity. I likewise desire your Lordship to do what you can for Daniel Deramè, a French Protestant, detained in the Galleys, whose Petition I send your Lordship herewith. I am,

JERSEY.

P. S. I have received your Lordship's of November 11. I told the King the Excuses the Portugal Ambassador made you, which His Majesty seemed satisfy'd with. Mr. Prior is come, but till Monf. Tallard comes, you will have no farther directions about the Spanish Affair.

To

*To the Earl of MANCHESTER.**My Lord,*

London, Novemb. 4. 1699.

I Arrived here on *Friday* night, and every body confesses that only *Roger* is fitter than I to be sent express; on *Saturday* morning my Lord *Jersey* carried me to the King. I first read to His Majesty what your Lordship said to the King of *France*, and what the King answer'd thereupon; and then I explained to His Majesty the substance of the whole that had passed during my being in *France*. His Majesty is satisfied with every step your Excellency made; and, in one word, we did as we ought to do. His Majesty asked me a great many questions about your Entry. You will easily believe I was glad upon that occasion to do you justice. His Majesty asked me about the Rank which *Monf. de Torcy's* Coach had; and in all this Affair, I can assure your Excellence, he is very well satisfied. I have seen as well *Charles* as *James Erby*, and *Christopher Montague*. I have been ask'd ten thousand questions, and gave them the news of my Lord *Mandevil* being to arrive at *Paris* within this six months; for which we wish all very heartily. I contracted a Cold in the Voyage, and wisely increased it, by running about these two last days. I am blooded, and kept my Chamber to-day, which is the reason of my using another Hand; I hope your Excellence will excuse it. The King dined to-day with my Lord *Rocheſter* at his House near *Richmond*; my Lord *Jersey* is gone to dine with him. Whig and Tory are, as of old, implacable. *Dr. Davenant* is coming up with another Book, in which he attacks the Grants; and is (as I am told) very scurrilous upon my Lord Chancellor, and our dear Friend *Charles*. This I think is all the News I have known since my arrival. I have only to add my great Thanks to your Excellency for your Hospitality and Kindness to me in *France*: and wish you success in every thing there, with all possible zeal and sincerity. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

*To the Earl of JERSEY.**My Lord,*

Paris, Novemb. 17. 1699.

I Suppose your Lordship will easily believe I have but little time to write, when you know I am in the *Hotel des Ambassadeurs*, and am to have to-morrow my Audience at *Versailles*. Neither do I think it proper to trouble your Lordship with an Account of what has been done in obedience to His Majesty's Commands, since Mr. *Prior* is fully informed of all proceedings, and what did pass in my private Audience. I shall only say, I found the King well disposed, and of the same mind he was when this matter was first under consideration, shewing a great desire to have it concluded. I shall always discharge his Majesty's Orders with all secrecy and care imaginable; and I am apt to think this occasion will make *Monf. de Tallard* take care how he behaves himself, for he was not very easy when he found Mr. *Prior* was come, and that I was to have an Audience. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

*To the Earl of MANCHESTER.**My Lord,*

London, Novemb. 4. 1699.

I No sooner received the favour of your Lordship's Letter, but according to your desire, I spoke to my Lord *Jersey*, who has since told me he had signified His Majesty's pleasure to your Lordship thereupon; and that your Lordship may be thoroughly instructed in the matter, I must further acquaint you, that the matter in debate is only between my Brother and myself: for by the Treaty of Peace, the Estate is to return to the Family, and, as your Lordship has been already informed, the King of *France* has put me in possession,

possession, which being disputed by my Brother, was the occasion of my suing for the King of *France's* Protection, that by His Majesty's Authority I might freely enjoy the possession thereof, without being put to the charge of so many Law-Suits by my Brother, who is now actually at Law with me, and endeavours to dispossess me of my undeniable Right. Wherefore my request to your Lordship is, that you would recommend my particular Interest to the King of *France*, and that His Majesty will please to give orders that I may be continued in quiet possession of the Estate, which is my undeniable Right; but were that disputable, my Services both here and in *France*, ought to give me the preference. My Lord, I have given your Lordship as short an account as the subject would permit, and do not at all doubt of success therein, if your Lordship does heartily espouse my Interest, which will lay a perpetual obligation upon, &c.

SCHONBURG and LEENSTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Copenhagen, Novemb. 3. 1699.

I Am honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 30th past, by which I find you have cause to think that the Ambassador here has not represented the business of the *English* Effects on board the *Dantzick* Ships so fairly as I expected. 'Twas he himself that demanded the Certificates from *Dantzick* (after having seen those from *England*) as a further confirmation of the Property of the Reclaimers; and yet, when they were come, he wrote to Court that they could add nothing at all to the strength of the *English* Proofs, and that they should have come first of all: whereas it is certain, that the only authentick Proofs consisted in the Oath of the Owners; for the Factors in *Dantzick* could only know by whose order they had shipp'd them, and to whom they had addressed them, but could never swear that they were really for the account of the same Persons, especially being shipp'd before the Peace was published in these parts; and during the War, very often the real Owners did not discover themselves: besides that, there is nothing more ordinary, even in time of Peace, than for one Person that has correspondence in a foreign Port, to write thither for Goods for the account of other Persons that have no correspondence there: so that the Factors can never swear positively to the Property of the Owners, nor indeed any other but the Owners themselves.

From all this it appears, that the Certificates upon Oath from the Owners in *England*, were the most authentick Proofs that could be; and that the Ambassador's desiring of other Certificates afterwards from the *Dantzickers*, was only to gain time, till he could be permitted to sell the Goods here; which is now done a good while ago, as I suppose Mr. *Stanyan* acquainted your Excellency upon his receiving of my Letter of the 1st past; and the Sum amounts to so small a matter, that I know not yet whether the Owners will not rather reserve their pretensions intire, than accept of it, if it should be offered them: especially since the *French* did so confound the Goods in the unlading of them, that it was afterwards impossible to distinguish the *English* Effects from others, or those of one *Englishman* from those of another; or, amongst the latter, whose were damaged, and whose were not; all the marks being gone: which was done on purpose, for ought I know; tho' some excuses are alledged, which may be true, for ought I know, too. Out of the said Sum, the *French* will pretend, 'tis like, to pay a proportion of the Charges, which have been great in so long a time; so that there is nothing to be expected at last of any consideration from the Ambassador here, tho' he should have orders to restore to the *English* that part of the Product which should appear to fall to their share, especially if he be allowed to subtract the Charges, which I suppose will be raised very high. The only

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method now remaining to the Owners, as I conceive, is to seek their satisfaction from the *French* Court, for the Goods which they have proved to have been shipped at *Dantzick*, for their account, according to their value when they were shipped: for a great deal was imbezelled by *Monf. Du Bart's* men before they came in hither, and a great deal since; both before *Monf. de Chamilly's* time, and after his arrival: but they have always been in the custody of the *French*, and the *English* have never had any thing to say, neither as to the preserving, unlading, nor selling of them; and the last, I particularly declared against, before it was done, in a Letter to the Ambassador at the desire of the Owners. As to other matters, some Papers which I sent yesterday at night to *Mr. Stanyan* by the *Danish* Post, will give your Excellency an account of them. I have newly received an Account of His Majesty's Sentiments about the Affairs of *Holstein*, viz. as to the Reasonableness of the Duke's sending home the *Swedish* Troops that are lately come into *Holstein*, and of this King's consenting to renew the Treaty of *Pinenberg*, without such a hard condition as the previous demolishing of the new Fortifications. This agrees with the Project I sent *Mr. Stanyan*, and all the foreign Ministers here do now agree to press this Court to an Accommodation upon such like terms, to which we are promised a written Answer this week; of which I hope to send your Excellency an Account in a few days. I am, &c.

H. GREG.

P. S. *Novemb. 14.* This Letter coming too late to the last Post, I beg leave to add, that *Monf. de Torcy* has writ to the Ambassador here, to examine the Contents of your Excellency's Memorial, and to send an Account thereof. *Monf. de Chamilly's* Correspondence in this Affair has been with *Monsieur de Ponchartrain*, and with his Successor in the Marine Affairs, and not with *Monf. de Torcy*. For other matters, I humbly refer your Excellency to the inclosed.

Copy of the King of DENMARK's Resolution of the 28 Nov. 1699.

Translated out of French.

IT was reported to the Council that the Foreign Ministers, who have hitherto interposed by their Offices in the Differences about *Holstein*, had made new Instances, that the Treaties of *Pinenberg* might be reassumed. On which it was resolved to give for answer, to each in particular, that his Majesty would have wished for nothing more on his part, than that he had found, on his coming to the Crown, the Affairs in such a condition, that he might with Safety, and without hurting his Reputation, continue the said Treaties; but that after the Duke of *Gottorp* had broke them by so violent a proceeding, and so prejudicial to his Majesty, as all the World knows, his Majesty has a foundation, according to all the Rights of the World, to demand redress for what is passed, and that all things be put in their former State, before he enters into any Negotiation with the Duke of *Gottorp*. And his Majesty promises himself that he shall have the approbation of all the Powers of *Europe* in this Affair; the more, because neither he, nor the late King his Father of glorious Memory, have given any Reasons to the Duke of *Gottorp* for such Innovations and Attempts; that he has rather by this acted against the Word he had given, as is owned by the Mediation itself, and against what other Powers have promised to the late King, and of which his Majesty does yet constantly claim the execution. But as soon as the Duke of *Gottorp* shall have consented to the just Demands of his Majesty, he will not only put his hand to the renewing the said Treaties, under the Mediation agreed on by both Parties, but he will also so much facilitate the ending them happily, that all the World will acknowledge how much he is for Peace; and

and that he has had no other View in all this Affair, but to maintain the Rights which were transmitted to him with the Crown, and which have heretofore suffered but too many Infringements by the Iniquity of the Times, and to put at the same time his Estates in Safety.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 21. 1699.

THE same Day Mr. *Prior* left this place, I went to *Versailles*, and had my Audiences, where passed what is usual on such Occasions. The King expressed himself in very obliging terms, mentioning the great Desire he had to continue the good Correspondence, that was now so well established; and that he did again repeat to me what he had formerly assured me of, &c. I made *Monf. de Torcy* a Visit, where I took occasion to discourse of what had passed in my private Audience. I knew he expected it, and I was also willing to find out his Sense of the Matter. He said that the King had acquainted him with it. That I had fully explained the whole Proceeding to his Majesty. That *Monf. de Tallard* was to set out on Monday next. He did still seem to insist on the great Credit our King had with the States; and, laughing, said he wondered I should lessen it. I told him I did own the States had always shewn a great Regard to every thing that was proposed by His Majesty. That the Assurances I had given this King were, that He had recommended it, and would continue to do it, so that nothing would be wanting on His part: that tho' there were great hopes of a good Conclusion, yet, 'till it was agreed to by the States, it was more than could be said, that they would certainly do it. On the whole, I find the Court impatient 'till it is done, by his saying no time was to be lost, that the King of *Spain's* Life was very uncertain, that by the last account they had he was ill again. I waited on *Monf. de Tallard* this Morning, and his Discourse was much the same. He gave me to understand, that tho' *Monf. de Bonrepos* would seem to be concerned in this Affair, he was not in the least; that he hoped to find all things ready at his return into *England*, which would be on Saturday next. That he had all the Duty imaginable for the King, that his Intentions were, and always would be, to endeavour to continue a good Understanding between our Masters: To which I replied, as was proper on such an Occasion, I hope *Monf. de Tallard* will be so just as to give it the same turn in *England*, as he does here. The inclosed for the King, which came from *Spain*, I had from *Monf. Heemskerck*, and Mr. *Blathwayt* has one from Mr. *Stanhope*. I am told just now that there is an Express come to the *Spanish* Ambassador here with Advice, that Mr. *Stanhope* is to depart in eighteen Days, and to keep his House in the mean time. I hope His Majesty does approve of the Account Mr. *Prior* will have given. I shall continue to obey your Lordship's Orders as becomes, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. The Duke and Dutches of *Lorain* are here, and are to be this day at *Chalot* to see the late King and Queen.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 25. 1699.

I Send you the inclosed, which I took the liberty to open, not knowing but there might be some Directions for me, by reason I had none by that Post from my Lord *Jersey* nor Mr. *Tard*. I suppose you will easily excuse it. I desire you will let my Lord know that I have nothing at present to trouble him with. I am impatient to hear how His Majesty approves of our Proceeding; and I must put you in mind of the Catalogue of Books, and also what Method I must take about the ninety Louis that you had a Note of,

of, for I intend soon to send the Account of my Extraordinaries. I still continue to make publick Discourses here, having had my Audience of Madame last Sunday. I went with five Coaches and all the *English* Gentlemen, and Twenty-four Men in Liveries, each of them carrying a white Flambeau. I am glad I am coming to a Conclusion of these Vanities, tho' I am satisfied it does service here, and makes some very uneasy. I am told that one *Ogilby* went from hence on Sunday last to *St. Valery*, in order to embark for *England*; that he was to address himself to my Lord *Drummond* upon his Arrival at *London*; and after some Stay there to go to Duke *H—* with Messages, if not Letters from the Court of *St. Germans*. It is thought it might be for His Majesty's Service to have him seized: but I cannot give any particular Directions where he is to be found. The likeliest way is by watching my Lord *Drummond*. He has been often employed between *England* and *France* in the late War, so that I presume matter enough may be found against him. You will acquaint my Lord *Jersey* of this, which will oblige, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Dec. 2. 1699.

I Am to acknowledge your Lordship's of *Novemb. 13.* As to the Prince of *Vaudemont*, I have done all I can, and his Secretary is satisfied, and gone to *Brussels*. In short, it was asking what was denied in Lord *Portland's* time, and I found they did not think it could be obtained, tho' they were desirous I should try what could be done. I did discourse with *Monf. de Tallard* about *Pierre Perault*, and *Beckford*: but his Stay being so short here, we came to no Resolution. He promised me he would adjust it with your Lordship; tho' I found by him, that he demands *Beckford*, as being a *Frenchman*, and so consequently ought to be released without any Exchange. As to the Petition of *Deramee*, which your Lordship sent me, I can propose the Matter to *Monf. de Torcy*, if you please, but I am satisfied they will not release him, nor any in his Case; having tried again to do something for those *French* that were taken out of the Ship at *St. Sebastian* without Success; and *Monf. de Torcy* telling me his Majesty was resolved not to grant any Favour in those Cases, and, as it would always be denied, so he hoped for the future it would not be asked. I find even a great deal of difficulty about the Daughters of *Mr. Fleming*, and there is more reason to demand them, they being descended of *Scotch* Parents. I did last Tuesday use all the Arguments I could find, that they might be released without being tried by the Parliament here. *Monf. de Torcy* acquainted me, that the Judge at *La Rochelle* had returned for answer, that as the Father was born in *France*, and was married to a *French* Woman, these Daughters were *French*; that tho' the Grandfather might be a *Scotchman*, yet it was near fifty Years that they had lived here, and enjoyed all the Privileges as *French*, and were ever esteemed as such; that they were taken going out of the Kingdom without a Pass, engaged with other *French* Women to make their escape, and in so secret a manner, that they knew themselves to be liable to the Law; that being born in *France*, they cannot be deemed otherwise than *French*; that it was so among all Nations, and he said they had lately released one, because it was proved he was born in *Orange*. I urged several Treaties made in favour of Merchants, and their Children residing in Foreign Countries, for the Benefit of Commerce, and also more particularly in favour of the *Scotch* Nation, and that this made them not liable to that Custom. He answered, the King could take no Resolution 'till he was better informed; that at their Trial they might alledge whatever was for their Justification.

I presented another Memorial about the Effects of the *English* on the *Dantzick* Ships, which I send your Lordship. I pressed *Monf. de Torcy* with some warmth, and he promised it should be laid before the King, and said he

had wrote to Monf. *de Chamilly*, as I had before desired; that as soon as he had his answer, he would acquaint me with it. That he wondred that the Proofs I informed him of were not sooner produc'd, this Matter having depended near two Years; which gave great suspicion that the *English* Merchants owned them only to favour those of *Dantzick*. I said, I supposed the same Proofs had been produced to Monf. *de Chamilly* some time ago, which I hope was true, otherwise they have not manag'd their Concerns well. As for the *English* Ship taken on the Coast of *Guinea*, he said the Informations were now come, and they were to be laid before the King, and that I should soon have an Answer.

My Lord *Carlingford* was several times with me, speaking always with great Honour of our Master. He did not go to *St. Germain*s when the Duke of *L.* went, because it might not be well taken in *England*. King *James* is indisposed, tho' it is not thought his Distemper is dangerous. The Letter inclosed for His Majesty I had from the *Dutch* Ambassador. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 8. 1699.

I Could wish this Court was so well inclined as to grant any favour in relation to the *French* Protestants; but at present I cannot see any inclination, neither can I hope ever to have such credit with Monf. *de Torcy*, as on my own account to persuade him; if at any time I see a Probability, I shall not fail to act as is desired. I have not yet made all my Visits of Ceremony; and this day I am going to the Arsenal. You will be so kind as to make my excuse to Lord *Jersey*, having nothing at present to acquaint him with, only that King *James* continues still ill. His Distemper is Boils in his Back-side. I do not hear there is much danger, unless it should turn to a Fistula. In a little time you shall hear more. Monf. *de Tallard* could not be so soon with you as he intended, because the Wind continued some Days against him, and obliged him to stay at *Calais*. I am glad to hear our Proceedings were approved of, and I am impatient to know the Success of that Matter, tho' it may be I shall hear it first from Monf. *de Torcy*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P.S. I desire to know what I must do about the ninety Louis d'Or. The inclosed for the King comes from *Spain*.

To my Lord Chancellor (SOMERS.)

My Lord,

Paris, Dec. 8. 1699.

MR. *Montague*'s leaving the Treasury, I do own, did very much surprise me; and the more since I find it your Lordship's Opinion that there was not that absolute necessity for it. I remember well what was thought of my Lord *Orford*'s quitting the Admiralty, and I should be sorry he should fall under the same Censure. It is certain it will be a great loss to me in particular; tho' if the Publick, and the rest of my Friends do not suffer, I shall be very easy. I am apt to think he had a great many Enemies out of Envy, &c. and he might imagine they would come to a Vote that his two Places are inconsistent, which was his Interest to avoid. I can only say that your Lordship is certainly the best Judge, and I could have wished he had took your Advice.

As to the Affair that passed in *Holland* this Summer, I cannot see why the States should make any Difficulty, since the Year before they did agree to a Proposal of that nature; and the same Reason does still continue, unless they were desirous to see first the Success of their Tarif here, which was yesterday settled and exchanged.

The House of *Austria* will never agree to any thing 'till it is too late. Besides, they think our Interest is so much concerned, that we shall at all times procure them such Conditions; and on the other side, the fear they have of disobliging *Spain*, makes them so very cautious, as not to come into any Proposal whatever. I must confess, I am impatient to see the Conclusion of this Matter. For in case it has not the Effect we always proposed, I shall be sorry it has gone so far; and I know this Court will be much dissatisfied with us, and may be with some Reason. All I have acted in it has succeeded as was desired. I shall continue to obey what Orders are sent me, and must leave the rest to those who understand it better.

The Reason why I trouble your Lordship seldom with what passes here is, that our Letters are often opened, which obliges me to write in Cypher. This comes by my Lord *Tavistock*; and I know that whatever I say to your Lordship can never turn to my prejudice.

King *James* is ill, and may be in danger. It is certain he cannot recover if it turns to a Fistula, for he is mightily broke of late. They are very angry at me for coming hither, and so your Lordship may judge of the Situation I am in betwixt these two Courts. The one will be civil to me as long as it is their Interest, and the other will never forgive me. Besides, this place is not very pleasant, when I hear every day something is done to oblige those at *St. Germain's*, and when some Publick Ministers, that have owned us, make them Compliments. Nevertheless I am satisfied that at present this King desires to be well with *England*, but that will depend much on the Success of this Affair. For my part, whenever I am recall'd, it will be always welcome to me, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Right Honourable CHARLES MONTAGUE Esq;

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 8. 1699.

I Am far from considering my own Interest alone, when I wished you had done otherwise in relation to the Treasury. I can easily imagine a Step of this nature would not be made without consulting your Friends; but I am sorry to find my Lord Chancellor does not wholly approve of it, and him I take to be one of the best you have. The Assurances you give me, that you will take care of my Payments, &c. make me very easy. I would not willingly be put to Difficulties of that nature, nor be obliged to press the King to let me come home, which must be the Consequence in that Case. As all things are extravagant here, much more than I could imagine, so the Necessities of the People are such, that they cannot stay any time. The Method I have taken hitherto, is to pay every Month, which is much for my Reputation. It is true, that notwithstanding I brought most of my Equipage from *England*, my Entry has cost me a considerable Sum. The Satisfaction I have is, that it is extremely approved of here, which seldom happens. I have also the good fortune of obliging all the *English* Gentlemen, as I believe you will find when you see them. These things cannot be done but by living well; and tho' at present this is a great Expence, yet at last it may turn to my advantage. I am apt to think also that this Method has had some Influence on the Court, for here they judge by the Appearances you make, and shew you Honours and Civilities accordingly.

Mr. *Prior's* coming here, and the private Audience I had of the King on the day of my Entry, occasioned much Discourse, and did me service with the Ministers; for now they see the King does not wholly rely on Monf. *de Tallard*. I hear His Majesty did approve of my Proceedings, and it had the Effect He desired. I am also very careful in sending all that passes at *St. Germain's*. Their hopes are but small at present, and if any where, it is in *Scotland*; tho' the wisest amongst them do not think any good can be done, as long as the good Understanding between the two Crowns lasts. I believe

lieve this Court is sincere, so as not to be inclined to give them assistance: for since my being here, I have had several Audiences of the King on different Subjects, and he has always taken occasion to assure me of the desire he had to continue the Friendship in such strong Terms, that I am confident he wishes at present nothing more.

You see the situation I am in betwixt these two Courts; the one out of Interest is civil to me, the other, as I hear since I came hither, can never forgive me. You may judge also how little the last is acquainted with publick Matters. King *James*, upon Mr. *Prior's* coming hither, believed I was to be recalled, and he to be left here; which for some time gave him great Satisfaction. It is not agreeable to them to see me live in such a manner, that none of the *English* come to *Paris* but they address themselves to me.

I send this by my Cousin *Mansell*, and this makes me trouble you with a fuller Account of Matters than I could do by the Post, our Letters being often opened. I desire you will let me know the State of our Affairs, and how the Tories are, whether in more favour, or if there is any likelihood of an Alteration. You will have very soon an opportunity of writing to me by some Express, that will come from the Office. I am told that since the Duke of *Shrewsbury's* Health will not permit him to marry, my Lord *Carnbery* has thoughts of you. I shall be glad to hear it is so, or of any thing else that may be for your Advantage, being very sincerely, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Dec. 9. 1699.

YOUR Lordship's of the 23d O. S. gave me an Account of your having received my Letter of the 14th of this Month. I have obey'd your Orders concerning Madame *Cousans*, and what she desired is granted. Mons. *de Torcy* wished that all my Demands were of such a nature, which referred to her being a Catholick. I have also given him a Memorial for the Officers of the Customs. As the Case is represented to me, it seems very extraordinary, and it seemed so to him; but he said it should be examined: He could not but think there was some other Reason than what I was acquainted with. If so, I shall let your Lordship know it, when I have his Answer.

The Emperor's Envoy had yesterday a private Audience of the King. He tells me it was about the Surrender of *Brisac*. The King has promised it should be done in a Fortnight, and may be sooner. The Assurances were such, that he does not doubt but it will be performed.

There is a Person going into *England* with a Letter to the King from the Duke of *Mantua*: he has also one from the Elector of *Bavaria*, whom he takes in his way. It is to solicit His Majesty in favour of Count *Bosselli*, who is in the *Bastile*; it being said now that the Reason of his being there was, that he was concerned in a Design against our King's Life. This was done when your Lordship was here, so that you are well informed of that Matter. I have heard of him in *Italy*, and he has committed a great many Villanies. He was the Person that shot into Cardinal *Grimani's* Coach at *Milan*. This same Person hopes to get a Letter from Mons. *de Torcy* to Count *Tallard*. This I thought necessary to acquaint your Lordship with. Mr. *Stanyan* will send Mr. *Prior* the Examination of one *Bourk* an *Irishman*. I shall expect your Orders thereupon. I find that Count *Tallard* has seen the King, and the Business was not yet ready. The Tarif of the States was exchanged here last Monday. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Nov. 30. 1699.
Dec. 10.

MY Indisposition has been such, and I have had so little worth troubling you with for these two Posts, that I may easily be excused for not having writ. My Lord *Jersey* has for these six Days had a Fit of the Gout, accompanied with a Fever, which has hardly let him stir out of his Bed, and detains him at present on a Couch very near it. This is but too legitimate an excuse, my Lord, for his not writing to you to-night. Mr. *Tard* tells you the publick News, that a Supply was voted to-day, which I think to be the best part of it; for the rest, Factions and Reflections go on and prosper as formerly; my Lord Chancellor is the Man aimed at, and some Grants he enjoys are the visible Pretext. The King goes to-morrow Morning to *Hampton-Court* 'till Saturday night. *Mackay* waits to know who is to pay *Roger* the Express's Passage; your Excellency will pay it, and it is to be allowed in your Extraordinaries. For the ninety Pounds expended, I have not had an opportunity of mentioning it, as largely as I would, to Lord *Jersey*. *Bayley* is to do whatever he can to bring over *la Personne dont il s'agit*, and your Lordship is to give him all Encouragement and Assistance; nothing can be properer than the Method we agreed on at *Paris*. The *Montagues* are all well, which is all I have to add to the great Respect, with which I am ever, &c.

PRIOR.

P. S. I am to acknowledge the Receipt of the last Letter with which your Excellency honoured me. This moment Mr. *Powis* comes into me. He does not write to your Excellency to-night, but by next Post will rectify a Mistake committed, as he says, in his last. *Obryan* is this Evening brought to town.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Dec. 12. 1699.

THE Count *Debeling* has been with me about the Affair of the Prince of *Montbelliard*. I did let him know I had His Majesty's Orders to do the best Offices I could. Since that, I have discoursed about that Matter with the Emperor's Envoy, who is more particularly concerned, because it is inserted in the Imperial Treaty. We shall take those Measures that are necessary on this Occasion. I have mentioned the Case of Sir *William Douglas*, and have obtain'd as much as could be desired, it being a Matter triable at Law; so it is recommended by the King's Order to the Chief President of *Alsace*, with which Sir *William Douglas* is well satisfied.

It is certain that King *James* continues very ill, and his Legs are much swelled, which he attributes to his Legs always hanging down. His Distemper is of the same nature with that, which the *French* King had some time ago between his shoulders; but in a more dangerous place, near the fundament. It does not rise, and so it is feared the Corruption works inwardly. They talk little of it here, but those about him think it may be his Death, tho' not suddenly. I have received none from your Lordship since that of Nov. 23. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Decemb. 4. 1699.

I Received this morning the favour of your Excellency's Letter of the 9th instant, N. S. As to what may be said to you in relation to the Liberty of Count *Bosselli*; His Majesty does not think proper to be concerned in

in the Affair; so that if your Lordship be spoken to about it, you may answer that you can say nothing to it, having no orders, nor expecting any in it.

As to the Interrogatories of *Bourk*, which Mr. *Stanyan* sent to Mr. *Prior*, I can only say, that the Man was taken up upon suspicion that he was one of those concerned in the Piracy and Murder committed in *Bretagne*, of which your Lordship will find an Account in the Journal left in your hands. It will be proper that Mr. *Stanyan* writes to Mr. *Seward*, Merchant at *Mor-laix*, who is the Person that has care of this Affair, to see if he has any proofs against *Bourk*, or any further light into the thing. My Indisposition must excuse my not having acknowledged particularly the receipt of your's of the second instant, *N.S.* there being no Answer required as to the Contents of it. I have only to add my being, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, Decemb. 15. 1699.

AT my return yesterday from the Court of *Zell*, where I have been some time by his Majesty's Order, I found myself honoured with a Letter from your Excellency of the 11th instant, *N.S.* which I acknowledge, as I ought, with assurance of my readiness to inform your Excellency of all steps made in business here for His Majesty's Service, and at the same time, to give all possible marks of Respect to your Excellency's Person. I have not failed to answer all the News-letters with which Mr. *Stanyan* has been pleased to favour me, and did not know till now that your Excellency would be troubled with any more particular Correspondence from hence.

The present State of Affairs in the North is very doubtful as to War or Peace, notwithstanding all the endeavours used for the preventing a Rupture. The Offices of Mediators and Guarantees are as yet ineffectual for renewing this Treaty; the *Danes* being so stiff, that it is to be feared nothing less than demolishing the Forts will satisfy: and if they are attack'd, *Sweden*, with *Zell* and *Hanover*, are engaged in the Duke's defence. The *Thaw* has for a while broke the Measures at *Copenhagen*: but the Resolutions there seem violent, and only a hard Frost is wanting to put them in execution. The *French* Ministers in these parts pretend to keep the Peace as well as we do, and 'tis to be wished our Ends may be the same. Your Excellency knows the *French* King had no share in the Treaty of *Altena*, for the Guaranty whereof, His Majesty thought fit to employ me where I am: but of late, the *French* Court has thrust itself into this business in such a manner, that it will be hard keeping it out for the future. 'Twere endless to incumber the Post with all the tedious *German* Papers that are delivered upon this occasion, and your Excellency would find small satisfaction in them; but when any thing happens material, I shall be sure to transmit it to your Excellency, and at other times, the currant News to Mr. *Stanyan*, unless your Excellency pleases to have it address'd to Yourself.

I wish your Excellency constant Health and Prosperity, and am with all respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Decemb. 16. 1699.

I Have little to acquaint your Lordship with this Post, only that it is now resolved, and Orders are given for a Reform of fifteen Men in each Company of Foot, and ten in each of Horse and Dragoons. So that it is now computed that the Forces that remain will consist of 140,000 effective men. Monf. *Meyercroon* shewed me the Orders the King of *Denmark* had

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given to his Ministers at *Hamburg*, which was in answer to what the Ministers there had represented to that Court. The substance of it was, That the King his Master could not agree to any Proposals, or renew the Treaty of *Pinenberg*, till the new Forts, that the Duke of *Holstein* had built, were demolished; still insisting that they were the Aggressors, and not he. The *Swedes* will not agree to the withdrawing their Troops. This is the last Account we have here: but I cannot tell but some steps may have been since made, which your Lordship is by other ways informed of. King *James* has been cur, and it is said he is like to do well. I am,

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Decemb. 7. 1699.

THE *French* Post being not yet come in, I have none to acknowledge from your Excellency. The inclosed Paper *Monf. Palmquist* sent hither. I know he has been long endeavouring to have something of this kind signed: The subject matter was never indeed concluded. Our Ministers of the second Order will undoubtedly give way to their Ambassadors, which is all that *Mr. Palmquist* desires, and we ask no more than the same distinction *en pareil cas*, (in the same case.) It is His Majesty's pleasure therefore that your Excellency should agree with him as to the Contents of this Paper; but that you should do it either in discourse with *Mr. Palmquist*, or by sending *Mr. Stanyan* to him, to let him know that you consent to it, without entring into any formal Obligation, the thing in its own nature not requiring it. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

The Translation of the before-mentioned Paper.

THE *Marquis de Casais*, Ambassador Extraordinary from the King of *Portugal* at the Court of *France*, and *Mr. Palmquist*, Resident from the King of *Sweden*, at the same Court, desiring to facilitate the Intercourse betwixt the Ministers of the first and second Order, who meet at foreign Courts, or at other places of Negotiation, have agreed, with the leave of their said Majesties, that their Ministers of the second Order shall reciprocally see their Ambassadors without pretending to take the Right-hand at their Houses, nor the Door, nor the Place of Honour.

Given at Paris, the 16th of June, 1699.

The Marquis DE CASAIS. J. PALMQUIST.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Decemb. 7. 1699.

THO' I have written to you by my Lord's Order, that is, his Letter; I am to add a word from myself.

You see by the News that accompanies this Letter, what was done in both Houses yesterday. In the Upper House, the Bishop of *St. David's* business is thrown out; and in the other House, Proceedings in relation to *Kidd's* Matter, came to nothing; so that we gained two Triumphs that day. *Oh! si sic omnia!* The Commons Address, you will observe, to be something high; but the Moderation and Wisdom of the King's Answer, is thought, even by his Enemies, to be inimitable.

Davenant has printed his Book against Grants, which I take to be a scandalous Libel against the Government. I will send it you when we employ a Messenger; for I think it would cost you too dear if it came by the Post.

Smith that was a sort of discoverer of the Plot, and printed a Book last year, reflecting upon the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, has printed another now to

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the same tune. *O Tempora! O Mores!* every man says and writes what he will. Next Week I intend to come out myself with a Panegyrick upon the King. I am ever, my Lord, with all imaginable respect, &c.

M. PRIOR.

P. S. I do not write to *Stanyan*; for he has not a Park, nor a Doe in the World. I mean a Doe fit for a Pasty.

To Mr. STANYAN.

SIR,

Hamburg, Decemb. 22. 1699.

THOSE Points on the other Leaf, are what went from hence three days ago from our Mediation to the Court of *Denmark*. You will please to lay them before my Lord Ambassador, with my respects to his Excellency; and so soon as we have any Answer from *Copenhagen* to the purpose upon these Matters, I shall not fail to acquaint his Lordship of it. I confess, I have this day a little more hopes than formerly that we shall prevent a Rupture in the North, having had some Conversation with the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, who arrived at *Hamburg* this morning. Mr. *Scarborough* has been with me here some days, and is going for *Holland* to-morrow by the way of *Bremen*. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

The Points mentioned in the Letter. Translated out of Latin.

TO preserve the Peace and Tranquillity of the North, and to hinder a cruel and dangerous War, what follows will be necessary.

1. The Duke is to stop the further working at the Forts, as is agreed by this Article; and all the Works are to be left as they are, to the end of this Negotiation.

2. As soon as His Majesty of *Denmark* shall have declared that he will undertake nothing against the Forts during the Treaty, the *Swedish* Troops that are in the Lands of *Holstein*, *Sleswick*, and those that are lately arrived there from *Wisnar*, shall be withdrawn.

3. Neither side shall, during the Treaty, do, contrive, or promote any damage in the Hostile States, by Camping, Passing, Contributions, or under any other pretence.

4. That the Treaty of Mediation about taking up the plenary Project be reassumed, and that the Conferences may not become endless, and thus the apprehension of a perpetual War in the North be caused, let a certain time for the ending them be fixed.

5. That the side that shall, rejecting these Conditions, approach the other with Force, or load his Country with military Quarters, or marches over it, shall be held for the Aggressor, and the Guaranty shall be granted to the Party offended.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Decemb. 23. 1699.

I Was this day with *Monf. de Torcy*, when I discoursed with him about some matters that are still depending, particularly about the Ship taken on the Coast of *Guinea*; and also about the Officer of the Customs, whom they have imprisoned at *Cherbury*. He assured me, he had spoken about this to *Monsieur de Ponchartrain*, who promised he would return the Answers, so that I might have them next Week. *Monsieur de Torcy* said, he had Orders from the King to acquaint me, that the payment which was agreed to, in relation to *Hudsons-Bay*, or, as they call it, *Fort Bourbon*, was not yet comply'd with; that he desired I would take some care in that matter. I desire
your

your Lordship will represent it to His Majesty, and do what you can in it, since it may otherwise have that consequence, that when the next payment becomes due on the Account of *Orange*, they will have that pretence to delay it. Besides, the Parties concern'd will petition this King to be paid out of that money, which, I think, should be prevented. *Monf. de Torcy* took notice also, that the Affair of *Spain* was still depending, and not agreed to, which might be a great prejudice to this King, since they had now a good opportunity of turning matters to their Advantage, the Queen of *Spain* being dissatisfied with the Court of *Vienna*. He did not mention the occasion, but I fancy it is something in relation to the Countess of *Berlips*. All I said was, that I was assured, that the King my Master would contribute all he could to bring that matter to a good Conclusion. He answered, That the King was fully satisfied of it.

Count *Zinzendorf* had an Audience of the King this day, having just received a Courier with the News, that the Queen of the *Romans* was brought to bed of a Daughter. The King told him, as he says, in a very obliging manner, that he had given Orders to *Monf. de Villars* to take his Audience of the Archduke in the manner the Emperor should think fit. So that at present this Court seems desirous to oblige the Emperor as much as they can.

I have had no Intelligence from *St. Germain's* of late, because the late King's Illness put a stop to all business there. He is now perfectly well recovered, and dines in publick; so that, tho' he looks thin and wasted, yet they think his Life is quite out of danger. The *Irish* Forces were designed to have been comprehended in the general Reform: but King *James* having represented to the *French* Court, that they were an unfortunate People, who could not return to their own Country; that they had served extremely well in the War, and would be more useful than any others, whenever they had any design upon *England*: These Reasons, and this Request to the *French* King, prevailed with him to let them continue as they were; and accordingly the King sent *Monf. Barbesieux* last night to King *James*, to acquaint him with this Resolution.

Mr. Prior may remember, that I talked to him, when he was here last, about taking up one *Claude*, a *Frenchman*, as he says he is, who served the late Lord *B———*, in order to exchange him for *Pierre Perault*, or *Arnold*. If your Lordship be of that mind, he is almost every day at the *Dog-Tavern* in *Drury-Lane*, and *Couchman* the Messenger will be a proper Person to apprehend him, because he was acquainted with him when he was at *Paris*. This *Claude* was much at *St. Germain's* whilst he staid in *France*, and endeavoured to seduce several *English* thither: but that which will be a better reason for seizing him, is, his having attended *Richardson*, one of the Assassins, while he was concealed in the late Lord *B———*'s House; which, I am told, he bragged of when he was here last.

Baily does give me great hopes, that the Person *dont il s'agit*, will go for *England*, but he must first send away his Wife and Children. I shall take all the care I can in that matter. I am told that my Lord *B———*, who is now at *Montpellier*, keeps a Correspondence with the Court of *St. Germain's*, by the means of Sir *William Ellis*, who has shewn several Letters from him, and I am assured has wrote back to my Lord. This will be deliver'd safe into your Lordship's hands by Colonel *Richards*. I am sorry you had the Gout, and hope it is now quite over. I have received your's of *December* the 4th. And am,

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Decemb. 26. 1699.

THE *Mantua* Envoy has been often to see me, and the last time he did mention the Affair of Count *Bosselli*. I was glad I had received His Majesty's Orders about it; and so I told him, that I could say nothing to it, having had no Orders, and that I did not expect any. He said a great deal in his justification: That most of the Princes of *Italy*, as well as his Master, were fully satisfied of his Innocence, or else they would not appear in his behalf; and that *Monf. de Torcy* had told him, that being accused of a Crime against the King of *England*; they could not release him without His Majesty's Consent; that *Monf. de Torcy* did promise him he would speak to me about it, tho' he had not as yet. In case he does, I shall make him the same Answer, till I hear further from your Lordship. I found by him, that his Wife and Daughter did intend to come for *England* to sollicite His Majesty, and also a Person with a Letter from the Duke of *Mantua*. In short, they make all the interest they can. I suppose I have prevented their Journey at present, since I have repeated to him, that I thought it not proper, and that it would be to little purpose, by reason I never had any orders whatsoever concerning him, nor did I believe I should. I would willingly know if your Lordship did ever say any thing of him to this Court, else it may be that they would have the King appear in it, and that he should take it as an Obligation, and perhaps *Monf. de Torcy* will never mention it to me, &c. Your Lordship may be assured I shall not speak to him first. I desire to know what I must do, in case the *Mantua* Envoy should speak to me again, or these Relations should design for *England*.

I received by your Lordship's of the 7th, *Monf. Palmquist's* Paper. I had seen it before, but I took it to be so out of the way, that I did not acquaint you with it, since nothing would satisfy him but the signing such a Paper. *Mr. Stanyan* shall discourse about it with him nevertheless. He has only the Character of Resident; and the others, that are Envoys, do not make any difficulty. I believe he never waited on your Lordship whilst you was here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Decemb. 31. 1699.

I Take this Opportunity of *Mr. Stanhope's* going, to acquaint your Lordship, that I never see *Monf. de Torcy*, but he speaks to me of the great Affair. On *Tuesday* last I was there, I found him appearing a little more concerned; he said, that Matters were still under such Uncertainties, that they could not tell what to depend on; that he did not find that this Affair was any way advanced; that the King of *Spain* had been indisposed again since his Return to *Madrid*, and might die of a sudden, which probably would produce a new War in *Europe*, in case these Measures that were proposed were not first agreed to. I could give him no other Answer, than that I believed he was satisfied nothing would be wanting on the King my Master's part; and that I believed *Monf. de Tallard* was acquainted with what passed. He said he believed not; for that he had asked an Audience of the King, but could not have it, by reason the King was to go to *Hampton-Court*, and that at that time there arrived three Posts from *Holland*. I told him that I did not doubt but *Monf. de Tallard* had told him how easy of Access the King was; that I had seen him speak to the King about business, even without so much as asking an Audience, or acquainting the Secretary of State with it. I said, as for myself, that I thought if *Monf. de Tallard* had not left *Holland* so

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soon,

soon, it might have facilitated this Affair. To which *Monf. de Torcy* answered, that they had nothing to do with the States, having only treated with the King of *England*. That *Monf. de Bonrepos* was come to *Paris*, so that they had no Ambassador there, seeming to insist very much on this Point, that it was not in the least their business; that several Months were passed since the time they had reason to believe this matter would have been finished, &c. I cannot tell but he expected some light from me, or it may be *Monf. de Tallard* is uneasy, and has made them so. I found by *Monf. de Tallard*, the night before he went from hence, that he thought by *Christmas* this matter would certainly be ended. He said, in case it had a good Conclusion, he should be very glad to stay in *England*; if not, he hoped he should be recall'd, and some other should be sent. It may be that this Court was of the same opinion; and that finding the contrary, it makes them doubtful of what the success will be. *Monf. de Torcy* nevertheless did not seem to make any doubt; he only said, that in Cases of this nature, time was not to be lost.

Count *Zinzendorf* tells me they still meet with some delay about the Piles of the Bridge at *Brisac*, notwithstanding the Assurances this King has given him; upon which, he has again press'd *Monf. de Torcy*. The last I received from your Lordship was of *December* the 11th. I am much obliged to you for your Care of me, and am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, Dec. 28. 1699. O.S.

I Have laid before the King your Excellency's Letter of the 23d. His Majesty approves of what you answered to *Monf. de Torcy*, in relation to the Business depending. By the inclosed your Excellency sees in what manner *Monf. de Vrybergen* is ordered to act, in relation to *Neufchattel*. It is His Majesty's Pleasure that, according to the Contents of the same Order, you may second and strengthen what he represents on this Subject to the Ministers of the Court of *France*. Your Excellency will be pleased therefore to confer with *Monf. Vrybergen*, that you may take your Measures conjointly thereupon. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To Monsieur VRYBERGEN.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

December 25. 1699.

I Have read your Letter of the 20th of this Month to the King, upon which it is the Intention of His Majesty that you declare to the Ministers of the Court of *France*, that as his most Christian Majesty has procured the quiet of those of *Neufchattel*, when he recalled the Pretenders; and as he has since declared that he will keep to a perfect Impartiality as to their Differences: His Majesty hopes that he will consider that *Madame de Nemours* cannot be obliged to displace her new Governor, without exciting the Disturbances, which have hitherto been prevented. That tho' the Choice of *Mr. de Molodin* has been very agreeable to those of *Neufchattel*, they have nevertheless made Protestations and Remonstrances, in regard to the removing of *Mr. de Monlet*; which shews enough, how far they would carry it, if their new Governor was removed; and it shews us also that we cannot come to that extremity, without plunging that State into Disorder and Confusion. That after all, *Madame de Nemours*, in naming a Governor, has done nothing but made use of a Right, which she has uncontestedly acquired; that she has even suffered six Weeks to pass, before she proceeded to that Nomination; and that thus there is all the reason to hope from the Justice of the most Christian King, that he will not oblige that Lady to a Removal, which would have such fatal

fatal Consequences: and that remembering that the County of *Neufchattel* is comprehended in the Treaty of *Ryswick*, his most Christian Majesty will be willing that this State may owe its Quiet to the Application, which he uses to preserve it.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hambourg, Jan. 1. 1700.

I Cannot let this Day pass without sending my best Wishes of a happy New-Year to your Excellency and your Honourable Family.

The Weather having twice changed to a Thaw, very unusual at this season in this Climate, it has as often broke the Measures of the *Danes*, for attacking the Duke of *Holstein's* Forts. We cannot prevail by any means to bring things back to the Negotiation here. The *French* Ministers in the North pretend their Master will observe a perfect Neutrality in case of a Rupture. I am, &c.

J. CRESSET.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 2. 1700.

HAVING writ so lately by Mr. *Stanhope* to the Earl of *Jersey*, I do not trouble him now. I must desire you to make my excuse, and acquaint him with the Contents of this. There is nothing at present acting at *St. Germain's*, King *James* being not well, and giving himself wholly up to Devotion and Prayers. The Wound, which was very large, is healed; but it is thought they have done it too soon, because the same Humours run all over his Body, sometimes in his Stomach, Legs, &c. He is extremely broke, and most Men are of opinion he cannot recover, tho' he may go on some time as he is. Father *Cosmo* is run away with fifty Thousand Livres, which he had in his hands, and which he was to distribute among the *Irish*. They think he may be gone for *England*, since he cannot be safe in any other place. If I learn any thing of him, you shall hear from me. Nevertheless, it may not be improper to make some Enquiry after him; and you will find by my former Accounts where his Acquaintance live in *London*. I was yesterday at *Versailles*, where I made a compliment to the King and the rest of the Court, it being New-Year's Day. I dined with *Monf. de Boufflers*. I find them all very civil; but how long it will last, you can best judge. I wonder my Servant has not been with you; the Buck-Season must make it up. We want two Posts, having had no Letters since the 31st of *December* last. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Jan. 6. 1700.

I Find that, notwithstanding the Assurances the Court of *St. Germain's* has had, that the *Irish* should not be reformed, this Government has altered their Measures, and broke two Companies entirely in each Regiment, and ten Men in each of the other Companies; which is no little Mortification. I am now in hopes the grand Affair goes on well, since *Monf. de Torcy*, discoursing yesterday with me, as he generally does, told me that the Pensionary of *Holland* had told *Monf. de Bonrepos*, that the Province of *Zealand* had given their consent; and there being since some time past, it is hoped we shall soon know the Success, which will make this Court easy. *Monf. de Torcy* pretends they have Proposals of Treaties from all parts, but that the King does much more desire, and seek that with the King of *England* than any other. *Monf. de Torcy* has received, by an Express, a Letter from *Monf. de Tallard*, of the 30th of *December*, N. S. which is two Days fresher than

than ours. He seemed much better satisfied than the time before. I told your Lordship in mine of *Decemb. 16*, that the Envoy of *Mantua* had spoke to me concerning Count *Bosselli*. I have now Reasons to believe that *Monf. de Torcy* will do the same; since they say here, he was put in Prison at the Desire of the King by *Monf. de Tallard*. It will be necessary I should know what Answer I am to make, in case the fact is so: for as they seem not very willing to keep him any longer in Prison, so I imagine they will not give him his liberty, unless the King is satisfied with it. The inclosed I had from the Envoy of *Mantua*, open as your Lordship will see it.

Monf. de Palmquist seems still to make a difficulty, tho' I told him we agreed in the fact; but for signing a Paper, I thought it not necessary nor proper. I told him he might be assured, that whenever the Case happened to an *English* Envoy, he would not dispute it. His Orders are such at present that he could not comply, but he hoped to have others. I find by signing such a Writing, as your Lordship did send me, all the Envoys will expect the same. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 11. 1700.

WE have no Letters from *France* since my last to you. I have spoken to the King concerning what you mention in yours of the 16, about the payment agreed to, in relation to *Hudson's Bay*. His Majesty will give orders in that Affair, as soon as He meets His Treasury here; this, as it may happen in discourse, your Excellency will intimate to *Monf. de Torcy*. They will tell you from the Office that His Majesty returns from *Hampton-Court* on Thursday. I wish your Excellency a happy New-Year, and am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Jan. 13. 1700.

SINCE my last I am informed that one Major *Samuel Marewill*, a *Scotch-man*, went from hence two Days ago for *Rouen*, where one *A——t*, a Merchant of the same Country is settled, and he is to provide him with shipping to carry him to *Scotland* directly. When he comes there, he is to address himself to the *Scotch* Earl of *G——y* at *Edinburgh*, to whom, it is said, he carries Letters of consequence from *St. Germain's*. Because it is thought, that it may be much for His Majesty's Service to have him apprehended, I send your Lordship the best description of him, which I can get: He is about thirty-five Years of Age, a very lusty tall Man, a fresh-coloured Face and brown Hair, but he now wears a Perriwig; he formerly was an Ensign in the *Scotch* Guards, and served as such in *Flanders*, but he deserted about the time that Major-General *Ramsay* got the Regiment. However, it is probable there are many Officers still in it, who know him. Since his Desertion, he has served in the *Irish* Forces here; but having been reformed since the Peace, he was willing to undertake this piece of service; tho' I am told he railed publickly, before he went, at the late King for his ill treatment of him, pretending to leave *St. Germain's* in great discontent, and to venture hanging in his own Country rather than starve here.

I have already told your Lordship that one *Clark*, a *Scotch* Priest, who went by the name of Father *Cosmo*, was run away from hence, with some Money of the late King, and of several other Persons, to a considerable value. Since that, I hear that he is got to *Leyden* in *Holland*, where I presume it may not be difficult for His Majesty to get him seized, since it is certain that he had a great share in the late King's Confidence in several Matters. I am in hopes he may be more easy in making an ingenuous Confession, because he can

can have no further prospect of Advantage this way, after having cheated them so grossly; at least when he is once in custody, it will be no hard matter to extort the truth from him. He is a very tall thin Man, long visaged, a high *Roman* Nose, with a fresh Complexion, which, 'tis said here, he painted, and about thirty-eight Years of Age. I believe Mr. *Prior* has seen him, and can describe him more exactly,

I have discovered a Correspondence carried on between one Major *Burrows*, who went from hence about two Months ago, and absconds in *London*, and one Colonel *Stow*, one of the Assassins; and I am told the former has a Pension of a thousand Livres a Year, for writing what passes to Lord *Melfort*, tho' *Stow* receives the Letters under the Name of *Proctor*. They are directed thus, à *Monf. Proctor chez Monf. Veard, vis-à-vis St. Come, Rue de la Harpe, à Paris*. I have a Copy of one of his Letters by me, which contains no great matter besides virulent Reflections. I cannot send it by the Post, without hazarding the Safety of the Person, who put it into my hands; but I shall do it by the first Opportunity. In the mean time, I suppose, your Lordship will think fit to send the direction to the Post-Office, that all Letters, so superscribed, may be stopp'd, or at least opened. By what *Burrows* mentions in the Letter, it is probable that one of the Messengers knows him, which makes me hope he may be discovered. There is likewise one *Vavasour*, an Attorney, mentioned in it; he is a very violent *Jacobite*, under the Name of *Tego*, so called, as I am told, from his squinting. *Stow* told *Bayly* that Father *Saunders* had ordered him to give him a note of his Lodgings, because he believed King *James* would shortly have occasion for him; adding, that e'er it were long, we should have something that would surprise him. I have put *B.* upon finding out what was meant by that dark Expression, but as yet he can make nothing of it. *B.* tells me, that *Bryerly* has obtained eighty Livres for his share of the Pope's Money; and, which is more, that King's Leave to make use of it, in sending away his Wife and Children, having represented to him, that he could not maintain them here, but that he had a Brother an Upholder in *St. Martin's Lane*, who has promised to take care of them when they come: so that he is resolved to send them away some time this Week, by the way of *Rouen*, and to take the first Opportunity of following himself. I intend to bring this Matter to an issue very shortly, one way or other, or at least to be satisfied whether all that is told me about it be true. *B.* is to bring him to *Paris*, and then we are to find some way of breaking the Proposal to him, in which I shall lose no time, nor spare any pains to make it succeed. I am told that Lord *Middleton* receives Packets here under this Address, *Monf. Monf. Leverque St. Jean, Banquier à Paris*; and therefore I desire your Lordship would please to give orders that all Letters, so directed, may be opened at the Post House, that we may discover what truth there is in the Information.

I was yesterday with *Monf. de Torcy*, and shewed him the Articles they had agreed on at *Hambourg*, in order to prevent a War in those parts. He said that he had not yet received them, nor none of the Ministers, but thought that what they had done was right. I do not doubt but your Lordship has them before now from Mr. *Cresset*, yet nevertheless I send them inclosed in this. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. I had forgot to tell your Lordship, that *Monf. Vrybergen* did execute the Orders he had received concerning *Neuschattel*, and he will send you an Account of it. King *James* is rather worse.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Jan. 15. 1700.

I Should not have given your Lordship nor myself so much trouble in my last of the 13th instant, had I foreseen this opportunity of writing so soon by the Son of the Dean of *Tork*; neither did I think it worth an Express, tho' I cannot tell but some use may be made of it. The inclosed is the Letter I mentioned from one Major *Burrows* to Colonel *Stow*, one of the Assassins, who is in the Faction of my Lord *Melfort*. The true name of *Tego* is *Vavafour* an Attorney. F. S. means Father *Saunders*. *Lewis* is the person that brought these Horfes into *France*. He formerly belonged to Lord *Feversham*. It will be proper to open all the Letters that come with either of these Directions, which may give you some light into Matters here; but to tell you plainly my thoughts, I cannot think there are any Measures taken at present at *St. Germain's*, the late King being so ill that he cannot last long, and most Men I find are of that opinion; nevertheless I was glad to hear the King had ordered a Proclamation in *Scotland*, since it is there where they expect the most good. They had that Confidence in *Cosmo*, alias *Clark*, that the Duke of *Berwick* lent him his Calash, thinking he would return the same day; but he went with it to *Leyden*, and since that they hear he is at *Amsterdam*. He knows the whole Proceeding of that Court; so that if he could be taken, he would probably confess all, there being no prospect for him to return hither. T. tells me that Mr. *Richard Bozier*, who lives at the upper end of *Red-Lyon-street*, and frequents the *Bear Tavern* in *Holborn*, near *Bloomsbury-square*, with one Mr. *Fleetwood* who keeps him company, were concerned in sending *Goodman* away, as *Obryan* knows. Mr. *Minnis*, who went from hence in *August* last, corresponds with Lord *Middleton*, as also one *Netterville*. I believe Mr. *Prior* knows them both. I take all the care I can to know the Steps of those Fellows that were concerned in the Assassination; but they do not appear in publick, as they did when I came first. I cannot see any kind of danger but from such Villains. I do not like Father *Saunders* his Expression to *Stow*, that King *James* would shortly have occasion for him. Whenever any of them are missing, I will give your Lordship notice; tho' I hope none are admitted near the King, but such as are known.

I have received your Lordship's of *December 28*, with Orders to concert Measures with *Monf. Vrybergen* concerning *Neufchattel*. The Letter he had before by the Post, did not mention that I should have such Directions; and as the Case stood with *Madame de Nemours*, we took the first Opportunity of doing it. *Monf. Vrybergen* has sent the account of what passed to His Majesty. We are of opinion nevertheless, that the next time I see *Monf. de Torcy*, I should let him know I had also received the same Orders, and so leave it. *Madame de Nemours* is resolved not to revoke her Governor, and she is preparing to go to her House fourteen Leagues from *Paris*, in pursuance to the Orders she has received. I could wish something could be done for her, tho' I cannot see how the King can well concern Himself in that Affair. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 27. 1700.

SINCE my last to your Excellency, we have received four Posts from *France*; I am honoured with two from you of the 6th and 13th. As to Count *Bosselli*, you will continue to answer in the manner as you have already done, 'till *Monf. de Torcy* may have spoken to you on that Subject; after

after which, His Majesty may perhaps think fit to give some further Direction to you thereupon.

As to what *Monf. Palmquist* insists upon; the Answer you have already given him is not essentially different from the Paper he would have signed, upon the Orders he may receive from his Court, I shall be able to write further to you on that Subject.

I have laid your Letter of the 13th before the King; the Business you mention of the one Thousand three Hundred and Forty Men is put into the hand of the Secretary for that Country.

I have taken care in relation to the Directions of the Letters.

It will be very convenient that *la Personne dont il s'agit* were here. I think that Business should be brought, as you say, to an Issue.

Mr. Stanhope is arrived here, and has given me your Excellency's Letter of the $\frac{21}{31}$ December. As to the great Affair, it continues still in the State in which it was; tho', I presume, a little time will determine it: as soon as any thing new occurs in it, I shall impart it to you. I am, &c.

JERSEY:

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Jan. 20. 1700.

I Did mention to *Monf. de Torcy* the Orders I had received from your Lordship concerning *Neufchattel*, as I acquainted you by my last I would; and as they were exactly the same with those *Monf. Vrybergen* had, I said I had nothing more to add, but to acquaint him with it. His Answer was, that he had spoke to the King, who still continues to declare, that he would not concern himself in the Pretensions of either of the Parties, which I might assure the King my Master of: but as for *Madame de Nemours*, it was a thing personal to him, and had no relation thereto. I think I might have shewn him the contrary; but I might, in so doing, have exceeded my Instructions, neither would he have been convinced. *Monf. de Torcy* acquainted me, that they had received Complaints that the *English* visited the *French* Ships, and had lately taken an *Irishman* out of one of them. That at *Fort-Gambia* in *Africa*, they had also obstructed the Commerce. I told him I would write to your Lordship on these Matters; but at the same time I was not surpris'd at it, after what had pass'd at *St. Sebastian*, in relation to one of our Ships. Upon which he said, as formerly, that there were such Orders given, that the like could never happen again. I suppose *Monf. de Tallard* will inform your Lordship more fully of these Complaints. I have not been unmindful of the *English* Effects that were taken on board the Ships at *Dantzick*: but I cannot tell what to do, since by the last Advices from *Mr. Greg*, he seems to believe, that if the *French* would restore them, yet so much was imbezzled before the Ships arriv'd in *Denmark*, and the *French* would make such accounts of the Charges they have been at, that little would remain to the Proprietors: but if some Expedient could be found to satisfy them otherwise, it would be more for their advantage. These are *Mr. Greg's* thoughts. The last time I spoke to *Monf. de Torcy* concerning this Matter, he told me, that he heard the Town of *Dantzick* did intend to make good the losses to all the Foreign Merchants that were concerned in those Ships. It may be, this is the Expedient the *French* Ambassador at *Copenhagen* would have, but I have no Account from *Mr. Greg* of such an Intention.

I am inform'd that one *Richard Moore*, a Roman Catholick, went from hence five Days ago for *England*, by the way of *Calais*. He has been several times at *St. Germain's*, and kiss'd the late King's hand, before he went. One *Norman* went likewise the same day for *England*, by the way of *Rouen*; he pretend to be a *Somersetshire* Man, but is thought to be *Irish*. He has not been above two Months out of *England*, which time he has spent
alto-

altogether at *St. Germain's*, and I am told he had two hundred Livres of the late King before he went away.

I formerly mentioned to your Lordship one Captain *John Mure*, who had been all along trusted by D. H—— in his Intrigues, and at the same time I named such places in *London* as he frequented most. It would be well if he could be taken, because it is very probable discoveries may be made by him if any Intrigues are carrying on between the Court of *St. Germain's* and the Malecontents in *Scotland*.

Here is an Express arriv'd from *Portugal*, who passed by *Madrid*, and the Advice Mons. *de Torcy* received from him was, that on the 4th instant, the King of *Spain*, as he was standing in his Room, fell suddenly down on the ground; that it was near an hour before they could bring him to himself, and that they thought he had been dead. Nevertheless, on the 6th he was so well as to go to his Chapel. His Legs continue to be very much swell'd, and the same Humour runs all over him.

The Account we have from *Vienna* is, that the Arch-Duke is out of danger. I have received your Lordship's of the first of *January*, and have obeyed your Orders concerning *Hudson's-Bay*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 22. 1700.

I Have your Excellency's Letter of the 15th, by Mr. *Gale*. I shall take care as to the Addresses mentioned in the Letter that accompanied it. The great Affair is come to a good Conclusion; the Province of *Holland* having consented to it, except some little reserve, which will be of no consequence. Your Excellency will be pleased, as you may occasionally discourse with Mons. *de Torcy*, to let him know this; which may prevent any thing that *Tallard* may represent otherwise on this Subject. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 22. 1700.

I Have received the favour of yours of the first instant, and am much obliged to you for your good wishes. I must desire you would continue to give me an account of what passes in your parts, as Mr. *Stanyan* will not fail to do from hence. I must confess, I cannot see any reason why the *Danes* should not accept of the last Proposal the Mediators made them, unless they have resolved to have a War, when all *Europe* desires Peace. I believe they will soon be weary of it. The Season may prevent a Rupture for the present, and the gaining of time in these Cases, may bring matters to a happy Conclusion. This Court seems to be of this opinion; and, I am apt to think, will be neuter in case of a War. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 15. 1700. O.S.

THE Persons interested in the Affair of the Goods taken by the *French* on board the *Dantzick* Ships, having again addressed themselves to His Majesty, (as your Lordship sees by the inclosed Petition) I am to inform you thereupon, that it is His Majesty's pleasure, that you repeat the Application you have already made herein to the *French* Court, according to my Letter to your Lordship of the 4th of *September* last, and to the Contents of the Papers and Attestations which I sent to you the 24th of *August*; which do, I presume, put the thing beyond all dispute, that the Goods belong

ma-

manifestly to the *English*; and that the loss they suffer on this occasion, ought to be repaired by the *French*. I am told that the Effects are sold, and that the Money is deposited in the King of *Denmark's* hands; and that, conformably to some Agreement made between *Denmark* and the *French*. So we yet see how this Evil may be redressed with ease; tho' in case the supposition be not true, the *French* are equally obliged to make good this loss. Your Lordship will use all possible endeavours on this Occasion. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Jan. 27. 1700.

I Was yesterday with *Monf. de Torcy*, who had received an Express from *Monf. de Tallard*, with the news that the Affair was concluded; that the only difference that remained at present, was, that the States would have their part signed in *Holland*; and *Monf. de Torcy* did not well know how this could be done, the *French* King having no Minister there. Besides, it will occasion two parts of the same Treaty. I found *Monf. de Torcy* very well pleased; and in case that Matter is not otherwise agreed on, I could perceive that would be no obstruction: but the *French* King will send a Person into *Holland*.

I have had at last an Answer concerning the Officer of the Customs. How that matter has been transacted at *Cherburg*, I cannot tell: but *Monf. de Torcy* assures me, the Officer was not detained above three days, nor was he condemned to any Fine; but he supposes he has been some time in *England*. I think it is a neglect of the Commissioners not to have acquainted your Lordship with it. They should also take care not to represent a Fact otherwise than it is.

I am told just now, that the King having sent for D. H—— to come to *London*, he thought fit to write to *St. Germain's*, to know what measures they would have him take. They are of opinion, that he should not go, but declare openly in *Scotland*; which Lord *Melfort* is to acquaint him with. They think in case he went, he would be brought off, or be put in prison. Your Lordship will be better able to judge of the truth of this. Many of the *Scotch* talk of going over. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 18. 1700. O.S.

WE have this morning two Posts from *France*, of the 20th and 23d. My Lord *Jersey* commands me to acknowledge your Letter to him; and to tell you, that the House of Lords sitting so late, and he being obliged after its rising, to go to *Kensington*, is the reason why he does not write to you. You will see by the inclosed, what a day's work has been performed in the House of Commons; the *Irish* Grants to be reassumed, and not even the third part of them to be reserved to the King; and the Ministry, some of our Friends particularly, meant and aimed at in the latter part of their Vote: This all comes like a Torrent; and the few that would, cannot. In the House of Lords, the King is a little more civilly used. As to the business of *Darien*, His Majesty is at least justified in His Letters to the Governours of the Plantations. Thus we are, my good Lord, scrambling, and doing our best on one side against the other, who are very troublesome, not to say dangerous.

We hear of the Complaints you make from *Monf. de Tallard*, and prepare to redress them as well as we can.

C c

As

As to the Persons mentioned in your Letter, care will be taken.

The King has not yet seen Lord *Basil*, or any Address from him. I do not hear that this Lord's Countrymen are quieter. I know not how far your House's Resolution of to-day will go towards calming them. I am ever, &c.

PRIOR.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Jan. 29. 1700.

IN Obedience to your Commands, I thought it proper to take the first Opportunity I could, to see how *Monf. de Tallard* had represented the Matter your Lordship mentioned in your last; and as it happened, my being at *Versailles* to see the Ball, gave me the Opportunity, without giving him any sort of suspicion; and he might reasonably expect I should acquaint him with what I heard from your Lordship. I said, I understood that the Province of *Holland* had consented with some reserve, which was of no Consequence. Upon which he entred into a discourse about that matter; saying, he thought they in *Holland* were little acquainted with the methods of *France*, to think it necessary it should be register'd in Parliament here, especially in a Case that was not to take place but conditionally, and after a certain time; that it would be a means to make that matter more publick, which was not convenient, considering what trouble it had given already. He spoke at first with a little warmth: Whether he might look on this Act as some mistrust of them, or that it was laying too great a stress on the Parliament here, which, he said, was only a Court of Justice, I cannot tell. There would be the same inconvenience, if *Monf. de Tallard* should go to *Holland*, as was proposed; so that it would be better that *Monf. Geldermalsum* should have full powers to sign in *England*; or, in case one was not sufficient, there would be less notice taken of a Person that should come from *Holland*, than of *Monf. de Tallard's* going thither. *Monf. de Torcy* was very easy, and told me, that *Monf. de Tallard* had made no Answer as yet; but had acquainted him with these Points, and desired orders thereupon, which he said were not yet sent: But he seemed to think the King could convince the States of these Inconveniencies, which would make them alter their Resolutions, since they were not of any consequence. I said, I thought they were not, but could not tell what Reasons the States might have to desire it; that I supposed, since this Affair was brought to so good a Conclusion, this would not delay it long: for either our Ministers would convince *Monf. de Tallard*, or he would convince them. I am of opinion, this Court has measures to keep with *Spain*, since the Imperialists have not consented, and I did perceive all the discourse tended to the keeping this Matter as secret as was possible. I cannot inform you of what Instructions *Monf. de Tallard* will have; but you will find his discourse will be much of this nature. It will be necessary that your Lordship should let me know how I am to act, in case there is no likelihood of the States altering their Resolutions in these Points, that I may be informed of some of their Reasons, so as to keep Matters on a good foot here. I believe hitherto it has had that effect, for as often as *Monf. de Torcy* mentioned this Matter, I still gave him Assurances that the King would contribute all he could on His part, which made him more easy than otherwise he would have been: for I did perceive that *Monf. de Tallard* had represented to him that he did always receive doubtful Answers, and could not tell what to rely upon. Now I have acquainted your Lordship with the substance of what passed between us; and now I desire His Majesty's directions in relation to *la Personne dont il s'agit*; being informed where he was in *Paris*, I thought it proper to bring this matter to a conclusion, and that *Mr. Stanyan* should write to desire to speak to him, which

which accordingly he did, and the Person consented to meet him. The Proposal that was made him, was, that in case he would go for *England*, and declare the truth of all he knew, and even give Evidence, in case there was any occasion, and serve the King and Government to the best of his power; that I had orders to assure him of His Majesty's Pardon, and that he and his Family should be taken care of, he having a Wife and Children. He seemed to embrace this Proposal very well; saying, wherever he engaged, he would be zealous in their service; that for *St. Germain's*, he had served them faithfully; but thought, that after the usage he had met with, he had no farther obligation: but still insisted, that he did not know how to bring himself to give publick Evidence in a Court. Mr. *Stanyan* gave him such Reasons, that this matter is over with him. They have met since, and the only difficulty that now remains, is, that he insists to be at a certainty, and to know what will be allow'd him; and he seems to desire a Sum of Money, rather than so much yearly. Mr. *Stanyan* did endeavour to know what he expected, but could not prevail with him to name any thing; saying, his demands might be such, that I should not think proper to write, and propose them. Mr. *Stanyan* said, he thought that tho' it might not be granted, yet he hoped I would write, for that he could not engage in this matter, unless he was certain of what he might depend on. Mr. *Stanyan* is of opinion, that he is sincere, and may be of great service: but nothing can be done with him, unless I propose something of this nature. Therefore if your Lordship will let me know the King's pleasure, how much I may offer, and in what manner, I will do it in the best way I can for His Majesty's service.

Monf. *de Torcy* told me, that he had wrote to Monf. *de Tallard* concerning the Son of Count *Bosselli*, who was put in Prison at the same time with his Father; that Monf. *de Tallard* had spoke to Lord *Portland*, who said, it was not worth troubling the King with, he being a Youth, and there was nothing against him: so they intend to set him at liberty; but that the *French* King would not do, till Monf. *de Torcy* had spoke first to me; and the Father is still to remain. Upon which I told him I had no orders, either concerning the one or the other: but since Lord *Portland* was of that opinion, I had nothing to say against it.

I have inclosed a Paper for Mr. *Prior*, concerning some things here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, Jan. 19. 1700. O. S.

I Have this day received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 22d instant, N. S. for which I return my humble Acknowledgements.

The *Danish* Ministers are still absent, and no answer is returned to the last Project for renewing the Treaty. It is a mystery to every body upon what all this stiffness can be founded, since all the considerable Powers in *Europe* declare against such violent Proceedings. Your Excellency, without doubt, judges rightly of the Court where you are, that it does not covet a War at present: but at the same time, the *French* join in one point with the *Danes*, which is to keep these matters undecided. The *French* Envoy here, *L'Abbé Bidal*, has been dabbling of late to negotiate for the *Danes*, since none of them are now upon the place. He received a Proposition from *Copenhagen* to this effect, which he insinuated here secretly to the *Brandenburg* Mediator, viz. That the Forts should remain *in statu quo* during the Treaty; but at the end of it, they should be demolished: tho' by the said Treaty, the *jus fortalitii* might be decided in favour of the Duke. This expedient appeared so unreasonable and impracticable, that it was by no means thought worth the expence of a Courier that brought it express. If we gain a few weeks

Weeks more, the Expedition against the Forts must fail, and the *Danish* Troops will grow uneasy where they are.

Your Excellency shall be informed of every thing that passes worth your notice, and I shall sometimes do my self the honour of writing that we do nothing, and that I always am with great Respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Feb. 3. 1700.

I Am to acknowledge your Lordship's of *January* the 15th, as also one, wrote by your Order, from Mr. *Prior*, of the 18th. My Letter of the 20th N. S. will shew you how the Matter stands in relation to the Affair of *Dantzick*. It is some time since I desired Mr. *Greg* to send me what the Sum the Goods were sold for amounted to, and whether any Expedient is agreed to by the *French* Ambassador there. I hope to hear from him very soon, and then I shall obey your Commands in speaking again to *Monf. de Torcy*. The Emperor's Envoy begins to be very uneasy about *Brisac*, and has desired I would engage in that Matter, by representing it to *Monf. de Torcy*. I had such Orders from His Majesty by Mr. *Blathwayt*, when he was at *Loo*, but I would willingly know the King's further Pleasure. When I consider the Situation of our Affairs at present, I must believe this Court will defer it as long as possible. They can do it, especially if it is, as *Count Zinzendorf* says, that they insist that the Piles under ground should be pulled up, before they can restore the place, for that is almost impossible. I have satisfied him for the present, but I shall be at last obliged to assist him, in case I receive no Orders to the contrary, since I suppose the King would have me keep in all things fair with him, as I have hitherto done.

I am sure that Captain *John Mayre*, whom I formerly mentioned to your Lordship as an Agent of D—H—, is now at *Dunkirk*, and designs to stay there for some time. He goes by the name of *Brown*, and may be found out by enquiring of Mr. *Creighton*, Confessor to the *English* Nuns there. If he could be gained by Promises and Rewards, or be inveigled on board an *English* Ship, and carried over, it is judged he would be of great use at this juncture. *Baily* offers to go thither, and will engage to do one or the other, if he may go away with him; but that I don't think fit to consent to, because I cannot well spare him. In case His Majesty thinks it worth the while, I believe Mr. *Macky* would be a proper Person to be employed about it. He has frequent Pretences to go to *Calais*, and may easily step from thence to *Dunkirk*, without being taken notice of. Some Days ago arrived here one *Ennis*, Brother to the President of the *Scotch* College. He came directly from *Scotland*, and is employed by D—H— about the Business of the late King. I am told he is first to remove any Jealousies the late King may have conceived of the D—'s Designs, and then to desire Supplies of Money, and that some Officers, that are *Scotchmen* and Protestants, may be sent to him. I don't hear of any resolution being taken as yet about the Money; but I am told some Officers will be going thither very shortly, a few at a time, and by different ways, to give the less Suspicion. The Viscount *Kingston*, who is a *Scotch* Peer, and now a Captain in an *Irish* Regiment, is sent from *St. Germain*, as is thought, with that Intent. Most of those *Irish* and *Scotch*, that are disbanded, are a going thither. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 25. 1700. O. S.

I Received your Lordship's Letter of $\frac{1}{2}$ of this Month by the Post, and another of the $\frac{1}{2}$ by your Servant, and have laid both before the King. I find Count *Tallard* has as yet no positive answer in the great Affair: as soon

soon as he has, I will receive the King's Directions what further Instructions to send your Lordship in that Matter.

I do not find the King willing to be at a great Expence about the *Personne dont il s'agit*, without having some Assurance of the Service he can do. Mr. Prior has been ill, which is the reason I have not been able to know of him in what this Person can be most useful. I desire your Lordship will, in the mean time, keep this Matter on foot, and let me know your Opinion as to the Expence and Advantage we may have by it.

'Tis true the Officer of the Customs is come from *Cherbourg*; but it is true also that he was detained a Prisoner there some time, and put to trouble and expence; tho' I now find that it was more done by the Knavery of private People, who probably were concerned in the lading of the Vessel, than by any Order of the Government.

Your Lordship will continue to answer, as you have hitherto, in the Business of Count *Bosselli*. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Feb. 10. 1700.

I Shall endeavour to give your Lordship what light I can, as to *la Personne dont il s'agit*, and shall follow your Directions in that, as well as other Matters you was pleased to tell me in your Letter of the 25th past. Mr. Prior can inform you of what Service this Person can be. As to what your Lordship says, that the King is not willing to be at a great Expence; I am of the same opinion: but a Sufficiency for him to live on is necessary, else nothing of this nature can succeed; so that I hope the Proposal is approved on, as far as I have gone in it. Monf. *de Torcy* has used to me many strong Arguments, concerning the *English* Effects taken on board the Ships of *Dantzick*, and I cannot see any likelihood of redress in that Affair, since he says, that the *English* pretend to the whole Cargo; that the Sum, for which it was sold, has not paid the Charges the *French* have been at; that Monf. *de Chamilly*, the *French* Ambassador there, is not satisfy'd, notwithstanding all the proofs that have been made, that they are the Effects of the *English*; that the Town of *Dantzick* ought to make Satisfaction; that when they send their Deputies hither, which the *French* King expects, they will see what can be done, and that he would write again to Monf. *de Chamilly*. In short, I have spoken so often, and delivered so many Memorials, that, unless your Lordship can do something with Monf. *de Tallard*, I do not see any Remedy the Proprietors can have.

I cannot yet obtain an Answer about the Ship *William and Jane*, taken on the Coast of *Guinea*, tho' it is impossible to press that Matter more than I have done.

The Emperor's Envoy had yesterday a private Audience of the King. He told me that the King had assured him, that *Brisac* shall be soon restored to the Emperor, on condition, that if the Piles belonging to the Bridge are not destroyed, that then the *French* shall still have liberty to work at it 'till it is done, which he has power to consent to; so that I shall have no occasion of speaking to the Ministers here about it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 17. 1700.

I Have your Lordship's Letter of the 3d, N. S. and have laid the Contents of it before the King. According to the Orders you have formerly received, I repeat again to your Lordship, that in the Matter of *Brisac* you may speak to M. *de Torcy* conjointly with the Count *Zinzendorf*, and interpose His Majesty's good Offices in general, that this Affair may be terminated to the Emperor's Satisfaction,

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faction, and as the Treaty of *Ryswick* requires. As to *Mayre*, if his being taken or gained may be thought to be of such use, I will give the best Directions I can in it; in the mean time your Lordship may consult the Party further about it. He is certainly more useful, where he is, than he would be in going to *Flanders* after *Mayre*.

I have not yet dispatched your Express back again, but I think I shall in a few Days. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 18. 1700.

I Have your Lordship's Letter of the 10th, N. S. As to *la Personne dont il s'agit*, the King is not willing to be at a great Expence, 'till we could be assured of what use the thing would be. Your Lordship will be pleased to discourse *Bayley* on this Subject, and give me some further account of what he may say on it.

I am sorry we cannot yet have any better Success in the Affair of our Merchants concerned in the Goods taken on board the *Dantzickers*; if the Deputies, that are coming from that City to *Paris*, are, upon their asking pardon of the King of *France*, to have their Ships restored to them, it will be proper to apply to the *Dantzickers*, and expect that they should make us Restitution. In the mean time, I will acquaint the Merchants concerned here in those Goods, with what your Lordship writes, and inform you of what I may have further from them.

I am glad the Affairs of *Brisac* are at last terminated.

The Grand Affair is concluded, and will be signed in a Day or two. I will send your Express as soon as it is done, and if there be any thing particular therein, I will advise you thereof. Your Lordship will be pleased to take no notice of this thing 'till you hear more of it by your Express. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Feb. 17. 1700.

THE good Conclusion of the Affair, which *Monf. de Torcy* acquainted me with, puts this Court in good humour, and I am apt to think all matters here will go better than they have done. He discoursed about the Affairs of the Northern Crowns, and took occasion to tell me, that he had heard that *England*, *Holland*, and *Sweden* had made a League. I said I knew nothing of it, and I supposed that the cause of the Report was, the Endeavours the King and the States used to prevent a War in those parts, and that I never had heard of a League, nor any thing of that nature, only from *Monf. Palmquist* a little before I came to him. He said it was he had told him of it. I perceived he was a little uneasy at this Report, and let fall a word, as if the *French* King was also pressed to enter into an Alliance. I told him that what was lately transacted in *England*, was a Demonstration of the King's Intention not to act any thing that could be prejudicial to *France*, neither did I believe that there were any grounds for this Report. I saw afterwards *Count Zinzendorf*, who was full of it, and from him came the first Report, he having had it from *Holland*. I suppose he expected some light from me; but I answered him much in the same manner as I had done *Monf. de Torcy*. When he found I did not believe it, he went so far as to tell me two of the Articles. It is necessary His Majesty should be acquainted with this, that so he may let me know how I shall behave myself in case this Report should gain Credit here.

Monf.

Monf. *Vrybergen* begins to think he ſhall ſoon leave this place, and hopes to wait on your Lordſhip in *England*; if it ſhould be otherwiſe ordered, it will be a great Mortification to him: neither will it look well in this Court, ſince the Affair of Madame *Deſanguin* is not like to come to any Conclusion. If they ſhould think he was not to make a Report of the whole Proceeding to his Maſteſty, they will judge there never was any intention that this Matter ſhould be concluded. I believe he intends to write to your Lordſhip. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 17. 1700.

MY Lord *Jerſey* gives me in charge to own the Receipt of your Letters of the 16th and 17th, the Subſtance of which my Lord will lay before His Maſteſty with the firſt Opportunity.

If you hear no more of the great Affair, it is becauſe nothing is tranſacted in it further than when your Excellency was laſt adviſed of it; conſequently *Roger* is not yet diſpatched.

I muſt congratulate your Happineſs, that you are out of this Noiſe and Tumult, where we are tearing and deſtroying every Man his Neighbour. To-morrow is the great Day, when we expect that my Lord Chancellor will be fallen upon, tho' God knows what Crime he is guilty of, but that of being a very great Man, and a wife and upright Judge. Lord *Bellemont*, you will read in the Votes, was fallen upon to-day; thus every Day a Miniſter, 'till at laſt we reach the King. By next Poſt I ſhall, I preſume, be able to write to you what relates to Matters on your ſide. I am heartily tired with them on our ſide. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Feb. 24. 1700.

I Am aſſured that *Richardſon*, one of the Aſſaſſins deſcribed in the Proclamation, went from hence three Days ago for *Ghent*. His Buſineſs is to ſettle ſome Accounts with one *Gray* an *Engliſhman*, who has ſet up a ſort of Manufactory of Hats, and has lived there, ever ſince he broke Priſon in *England*, where he was clapp'd up for counterfeiting Exchequer Bills. I am told he will ſtay there three Weeks, and may eaſily be found with that Man, in caſe His Maſteſty pleaſes to have him ſeized. Some Days ago went from hence for *England* one *Rouſe*, who formerly rode in the late King's Guards, but of late has been employed as a Meſſenger. He is of a little Stature, rather thin than fat, of a freſh Complexion, and has dark brown Hair, aged about thirty eight. One *Parry* ſet out at the ſame time. He is of a fair Complexion, mark'd with the Small-Pox, a little Man, full-bodied, aged about forty-three. He was formerly a Servant to the late Marquis of *Powis*, but now wears a Livery of the late King.

Ennis, whom I formerly mentioned as come hither from D—H—, is gone back again to *Scotland*, as it is thought, by the way of *England*.

About a Fortnight ago, forty-two *Irish* Officers were broke, on pretence of having been abſent from their Regiments. It is ſaid they have thoughts of going to *Scotland*, in caſe there be any Likelihood of a Diſturbance in that Kingdom.

I have incloſed the Answers concerning ſome Matters that were ſtill depending, and your Lordſhip will find they are much readier to do us juſtice than formerly. By the next Poſt I ſhall ſend you that of the *Guinea* Ship, which I find already will conſiſt of ſuch Reaſons as cannot be allowed of, as I hope. The main Point will be, that we have no Right to trade in thoſe Parts. We have to deal with an *African* Company, where ſome of the
greateſt

greatest Men are concerned, and it is their Interest to have the Ship condemned as lawful Prize. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 28. 1700.

BY the last Post Mr. Prior acknowledged the Receipt of your Lordship's of the 16th and 17th. I have laid the Substance of them before his Majesty. As to *la Personne*, the King will give him a pardon; and for his Encouragement, your Lordship may offer him as far as four or five Hundred Pounds, and a Pension of three Pounds a Week. This will answer all Objections he can make, and is sufficient to gain him, provided there be a fair Intention on his side, for he may be sure to be subsisted according to what he shall discover. Upon this Intimation your Lordship may proceed, as you see the thing appear upon further Discourse with B.

Your Lordship did well to assure *Monf. de Torcy* that what is doing in *England* is a fair Demonstration, that His Majesty can have no sort of Intention to do any thing prejudicial to the Interest of *France*, and *Monf. de Tallard* will be able to confirm those Assurances from hence; your Lordship may, in any occasional Discourse, repeat the same thing.

One *Brisac*, a Lieutenant in His Majesty's Service, who went to *France* since the Peace, is taken up there, and condemned to the Gallies: your Lordship will be pleased to try what you can do for the Liberty of this unhappy Gentleman.

I have intimated to your Lordship the Reasons for which I detain your Express here, it will not be long before I send him. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Feb. 27. 1700.

I Wish I could find out any method of bringing the Affair of our Merchants at *Dantzick* to a good Conclusion, but I very much fear it; and upon what your Lordship gave me an account of, that the Money the Goods were sold for was deposited in the King of *Denmark's* Hands; I took occasion to find out by *Monf. Meyercroon* how that Matter stood: He does confirm the same, and also that this Court has pressed to have it in their Hands, which perhaps they will obtain, if not prevented there. I therefore thought it proper to write my thoughts to Mr. *Greg*, a Copy of which I have inclosed to your Lordship: for 'till he and the *French* Ambassador are agreed on some Fact, or can find some Expedient, I may discourse with *Monf. de Torcy*, as I have hitherto done, to little purpose: for tho' I do not doubt, but the Goods the *English* Merchants demand, were once on board, yet when the Ships arrived in *Denmark*, many were imbezzled, and what did remain, were so mixed with others, that it could not be made appear that such particular Parcels belonged to the *English*: Only in general that the *English* had such and such Goods on board when the Ships were taken, as they make out by the Certificates of the Town of *Dantzick*, &c. To which the *French* say, they are not yet satisfied that the Effects, so demanded, do belong to the *English*; that there is Reason to believe that this Demand is only made to cover the whole Cargo, in favour of those of *Dantzick*; that what did belong to the *English*, were only some few things that were perishable: that nevertheless whatever Loss the *English* may have sustained, the Town of *Dantzick* ought to make them Satisfaction. It would be tedious to repeat the many Arguments I have had with *Monf. de Torcy*, and yet I could never bring him to any positive Answer. What he told me concerning that Town's sending Deputies, I fear was only to delay this Matter, for I cannot learn they

they are coming, tho' I am of opinion they will be obliged to it at last. I cannot tell but something might be done if they were here; but that is so uncertain, that it would be much better Mr. *Greg* should come to some Accommodation if he can. If the Merchants concerned are of that opinion, your Lordship will take care that Mr. *Greg* may have such Instructions.

I send your Lordship the Answer of the *African* Company here, relating to the Ship taken on the Coast of *Guinea*, and also a Memorial in answer to those Assertions, which I intend to put into the Hands of *Monf. de Torcy* next Tuesday. I shall take care to press this Matter, since on the fate of this Ship depends our whole Trade to those Parts. I fear I shall meet with great Opposition, as I told your Lordship in my last. If I could have any further lights from *England*, it would do well.

I am informed that the King of *Spain* has been ill again, having been subject of late to great Vomiting, tho' the *Spanish* Ambassador here does not care to own it.

I hear the Money is paid concerning *Hudson's-Bay*, and I should be glad to hear it confirmed. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. GREG.

S I R,

Paris, Feb. 26. 1700.

I Am sorry that all the Pains, which have been taken both at this Court and yours, for recovering the *English* Effects taken on board the *Dantzick* Ships, have hitherto proved ineffectual. It is certain that the *English* have been wronged, and some way must be found to give them Satisfaction. I remember that, in one of your Letters to Mr. *Stanyan*, you told him, that the *French* Ambassador at *Copenhagen* owned that *Monf. de Torcy* had said to him, in one of his Letters, that it were to be wished some Expedient could be found out of satisfying the *English*; and I think that will give you a good handle for proposing to him some Terms of Accommodation: and since the Goods are sold, and that no body can tell specifically which were *English*, I cannot see how any Composition can be made, but by lumping the Sum with the *French* Ambassador. When you two shall have come to any Agreement, I hope it will not be difficult to get it confirmed and allowed at this Court, as well as at home. The Earl of *Jersey* writes me word, that he hears, that the Money, for which the Goods were sold, is deposited in the King of *Denmark's* Hands, 'till it can be decided to whom it does belong, and I am told the *French* Ambassador solicits very hard at your Court to get it into his own hands. If this be true, I doubt not but you will use your utmost Endeavours to prevent it; for if he once gets possession of it, it is to be feared we shall have but a bad Account of our Goods; whereas, if it remains sequestred, it is to be hoped some reasonable Satisfaction may be obtained and that the Adjustment will be much easier. This seems so fair, that I cannot think the King of *Denmark* will refuse to come into it, upon your Application. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Orange, March 1, 1700.

I Have received, by the means of Mr. *Robethon*, a Project, which has been made in regard to the *French*, that are established here since the Conclusion of the last Peace. As Mr. *Robethon* tells me that my Lord *Portland* will desire your Excellency to speak about it, I have thought it necessary to pray you to consider, that the first Article of the Project puts us in a Condition,

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as not to be able to live in this Country, whilst we are deprived of the *French* Servants, which we now actually have, and which we cannot be without, either now or hereafter. These are Persons that are of no consequence to *France*, and who serve the Masters, with whom they are, about two Years, little more or less. It will be objected to your Excellency, that we may make use of the ancient Catholicks; but pray have the Goodness to consider, that the ancient Catholick Men and Women-Servants don't come into a Country, like this, to serve; chusing rather to go to the great Cities that surround us, as *Avignon*, *Aix*, *Montpelier*, and *Nismes*, which is the Reason why the new Catholicks come more conveniently to serve us; it is the mildness they are treated with in this Country, where they are not molested, that attracts them: and if your Excellency would assure the Court of *France*, that there will be no abuse committed in this; that if there was, it might easily be remedied by an Order of his *Britannick* Majesty to me; and that there can be no abuse, because each of us can keep but a small number of Servants. Besides, the favour we ask is not great, whilst there are perhaps not forty Men or Women-Servants, who are in the Case, in all this Principality. Your Excellency might suggest the same Consideration for the Apprentices, who do not amount to twenty in this Country.

It has been also forgot to speak about the *French* Women, who are married to People of *Orange*, since the Peace of *Ryswick*, who cannot be hindered from remaining with their Husbands, by the Laws of God and of Nature.

If your Excellency will have the Goodness to desire *M. de Torcy*, and those you have Orders to speak to, to reflect on this, you will do a very considerable Service to this State, &c. I am, &c.

LUBIERES.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 22. 1700. O.S.

I Have no particular Commands from your Lordship, so can only acknowledge the Receipt of the *French* Letters of the 24th and 27th. The great Affair was transacted this morning, tho' I believe Count *Tallard* will not be able to send his Express away these two or three days. My Lord *Jersey* still keeps his bed, his Gout had a Fever which accompanied it; but God be thanked both those Distempers abate, and I hope by next Post he will tell you so in his own hand. In the mean time, we take what care we can about the Contents of your last Letter to my Lord; tho' God knows all the care we take signifies little, considering how we are restrain'd as to the taking up any body, tho' the Informations given make it highly necessary for the publick Good: but you know *England* well enough in this Point, my Lord.

The Speaker's Illness gives the House of Commons leave to play till *Monday*: The Address they presented yesterday to the King, he answered very civilly, but smartly. I have not yet the words, but shall send them with the first. The sense was, That He was sensible the Nation lay under great Taxes; that He had, and would contribute to the easing them by every way that was just. That he thought he had the power of gratifying some who had been actually in the Reduction of *Ireland*, out of what was His.

I had written your Lordship a long politick Letter, for I thought that *Roger* would have been dispatched to you; but since there is no particularities in the Affair I have spoke of, I have sent word to Mr. *Woolaston* that *Roger* may stay to go over with the Midwife for my Lady: *Quod felix faustumque sit*, &c.

If I might speak my particular Sentiments concerning *la Personne dont il s'agit*, I would have him well sifted and tried if he means to act in earnest, and is really disposed to the thing; otherwise we may be bantered, to say

no

no worse of it: but this is only to yourself, my Lord, and from him who is eternally with great respect, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Since my writing this Letter, I have been with my Lord *Jersey*, and am for him to acknowledge yours of the 24th and 27th, with the Papers relating to the *William* and *Jane*, which we must peruse as we have time.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, March 10. 1700.

I Have received Mr. *Prior's* of the 22d past, wherein he acquaints me, that your Lordship had been indisposed, which I was very much concern'd at, and hope it is now over. Here is arrived an Express from *Monf. de Harcourt* of the 25th past, with Advice that the King of *Spain* was dangerously ill, that his Distemper now was turned upon his Stomach, insomuch that he could hardly breathe, and that it was not expected he could recover it. I have reasons to believe the King will have an Account from *Monf. de Tallard* before this comes to your hands. The Emperor's Envoy has the same Account, and seems to be very uneasy, and said, he was confident our King would soon be in *Holland*; by which I could perceive that this would occasion his coming there.

Asto the Project concerning *Orange*, which *Monf. Vrybergen* had from Lord *Portland*, with the King's Orders I should assist him in it; we have both argued the several Articles with *Monf. de Torcy*, but without success. He thinks it much better to leave that matter as it is, since the *French* King cannot admit that those *French* that were established at *Orange* before the War, should be in a better condition than those in *England*, nor that they should have liberty to come into the *French* Territories and return, upon any terms whatsoever. This Article being the principal one, the others signify nothing. When I perceived nothing could convince him; I said, that I thought something of this nature was necessary to be agreed on, else, I was confident, I should be obliged to apply to him very often, upon several misunderstandings that would happen, which I thought should be prevented if possible. His Answer was, that *Monf. de Lubieres* was so prudent a Man, and lived so well with the Intendant, that he hoped there would be no occasion; yet if there were, particular Cases might be better relieved, than to agree to a Matter which contradicted the whole Resolution the King had made, and which he was resolved to observe; and that he supposed I was satisfied of it by the difficulties I met with every day more and more in relation to those of the Religion; which I owned to him was very true, having lately had the Example of the Daughters of Mr. *Fleming*, which I hoped would not be denied; but that I was unfortunate enough to have it so. The Account of this I suppose your Lordship received from Mr. *Prior*, whom I acquainted with it by Mr. *Stanyan*, having been of late out of order.

You mentioned one *Brisac*. I cannot learn any thing of him; and if he is a *French* Protestant, I am satisfied there is nothing to be done. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, March 12. 1700.

I Sent a flying Report last Post to Mr. *Stanyan*, concerning Hostilities begun in *Livonia*. I am sorry I must now confirm the same to your Excellency. The King of *Poland* has cut out more work than he will be able to finish himself, and probably may embroil all *Europe*. *Riga* and *Nerva* may make good resistance, if not betray'd by their Inhabitants; but as for the Country, it is already given for lost. It is not to be doubted but the Fire will suddenly break

break out likewise in these parts, the *Danes* making great Preparations for War. The Demolition of the Forts would now scarce satisfy them, since their designs seem to aim at something more. The Court of *Brandenbourg* trims, and is of no use to us at present. I wish the Emperor may do better. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Monsieur DE LUBIERES.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, March 12. 1700.

I Have received the Letter you honoured me with, of the first of this Month, and I would have answered it sooner, if Mr. *Vrybergen* had not undertook it. It is not necessary to tell you how hard the Court of *France* is in all that regards Religion. You know it but too well. It looks upon this Point as made only in favour of some *French* Protestants, and for that Reason I perceived the first time I spoke about it to the Ministers, that it was not very agreeable; and to tell you the truth, I see but very little likelihood to make it succeed: so you have not much to fear from the first Article. I can't tell you any thing else, but that, if I find hereafter a better disposition in the Ministers, I shall not fail making Reflections on the Points you mention to me, and to mind them in the Agreement to be made. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, March 13. 1700.

I Cannot as yet give your Lordship an account as to *la Personne*, by reason he has not been at *Paris*. I hope to do it by the next Post. I find the Union with *Scotland* is not liked at *St. Germain*, and all endeavours will be used to prevent it: in order to which, one *Trotter*, about twenty eight years of Age, of a middle size, with a red Face, the Son of him that was hanged for furnishing the Island of *Bass* with Provisions, went yesterday for *England*, and is to go from thence to *Scotland*. Upon the Proclamation concerning Seminaries, the late King *James* thought it adviseable, that several that are here should leave them, viz. Lord *Dunbarton*, Lord *Walgrave*, Mr. *Wharton*, *Widdrington*, *Brown*, &c. They are gone to a private House, till they see what the Parliament will do.

I am told there is another Express arrived from *Monf. de Harcourt*, but the Contents are not yet known. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, March 17. 1700.

OF all the Advices we have from all parts, the Proceedings of the *Saxon* Troops surprize us most; and I do find this Court is as much surprized, tho' I am of opinion they will concern themselves but little, and say they have done all they could by persuasions to prevent a War, but they always found the Affairs so disposed, that they could not but fear this would be the consequence, tho' not in this manner. Count *Zinzendorf* is uneasy, and cannot tell what measures his Master will take, and he is the more so, because the Emperor's Party in *Spain* decreases every day, as I am assured. We have no News from thence, so it is thought the King is better. All are in expectation to see what measures *England* and *Holland* will take in relation to this Affair in the North; and now the discourse of the late Treaty with *Sweden* begins again: but this Court is satisfied nothing relates to the prejudice

prejudices of *France*; and they have reason, after what has passed. *Monf. de Tallard's* Secretary is soon expected. *Monf. Briort* being gone some days ago for *Holland*, *Monf. de Torcy* told me that Matter began to take air, and he believed it would do much more so after the Proceedings in *Holland*. I told him I could not as yet perceive it; but the foreign Ministers seemed to think there was a good understanding betwixt *England* and *France*. I cannot tell whether this Court will be very much concerned, when it is once finished; whether it is known or no. I shall always act as I shall have directions from your Lordship; and the light you shall think proper to give me, shall never be made use of another way. I need not tell you that the Emperor's Minister with you does very much mistrust the proceedings in *England*, since what I hear here must certainly come from thence. It is hard to please, when they will not know their own Interest. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, March 24. 1700.

YOU will easily imagine that there is little discoursed of here, but the Proceedings of the King of *Poland*. It is certain, by the Advices we have now here, that what has passed is done in his own name, and not, as was said before, that his Troops were Auxiliaries of the King of *Denmark*. I am told that Mr. *Jordan*, his Minister here, owns that this Matter has been long resolved on, and that they waited only for an opportunity, which they think they have now, because the *Swedes* are otherwise engaged. The Resentment he has had ever since his Minister was ill received at *Stockholm*, after he was declared King, and the hopes of gaining *Livonia* again for the *Poles*, to oblige them, are his true inducements.

I must desire you will let His Majesty know that *Monf. de Torcy* has told me, on this occasion, that the *French* King was of opinion that this Proceeding might be of ill consequence, and fatal to the Quiet of *Europe*. That for this Reason, tho' he had hitherto had no thoughts of sending any one to the King of *Poland*, not having as yet received Satisfaction from *Dantzick*, for the affront to his Minister, &c. yet the consideration of the Peace of *Europe*, which was so necessary at this juncture, had made him pass by, what otherwise he would not have done; and that accordingly the *French* King had ordered *Monf. du Heron*, who is at *Brunswick*, to go as his Envoy to *Poland*, which *Monf. de Torcy* said, was the only Minister of *France* that could be the soonest there; where he is to do all he can to persuade that King from proceeding any further, in order to prevent a War. By the Treaty of *Oliva* in 1666, this Province was yielded to the *Swedes*, the *French* King being then Mediator. He desired the King might know this, because the *French* King was resolved not to act any thing without His Knowledge, and only in concert with His Majesty. To this I answered, that I had all the reason to think the King my Master had the same Intention, which, he said, was the only means to bring Matters to a good Conclusion. This occasioned his telling me (what he had not thought fit to tell any other Minister) that I might assure the King, that by the last Letters they had from *Spain*, it is certain, that that King's Physicians are of opinion, that he has an Imposthume in his Stomach; and that, tho' he seems rather better, yet, if so, he cannot last long. *Monf. de Torcy* said also, that by the Advices from *Holland*, all Matters, by this time, would be finished; and that he now soon expected Count *Tallard's* Secretary.

The Envoy of *Brandenbourg* has assured this Court, that his Master is very much surpris'd at the Proceedings of the King of *Poland*, that he had wrote to the King of *Denmark* to shew him the ill Consequence this would have, and to press him that some Expedient may be found to prevent a War on that side. The Envoy has assured me of the same thing, which contradicts

the Report we had, that the Elector would also declare himself. I find all are in expectation of what the King will do, and what Resolutions *Holland* will take.

Your Lordship will have received my Letter of the 20th; I have since made an enquiry into those matters, and I am satisfied there is not any truth in what that Person informed Mr. *Stanyan* of. I believe he was imposed upon by some other Man, and to make it appear the better, he said he saw those Persons go. Some of them are actually now at *Paris*. Your Lordship will know whether this *Walter Tooth* has ever been with Mr. Secretary *Vernon*. I have just now received the inclosed for the King. I desire to know, if, at any time, you perceive my Letters to have been opened, that I may take the more care.

I am sorry to tell your Lordship that the Treasury takes but little care of me, which will put me under great Difficulties here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

I have received your Lordship's of the 7th inst. O. S.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Mar. 14. 1700. O. S.

I Perceive by your Lordship's Letters of the 13th and 17th of this Month, N. S. that you have not heard of late of *la Personne*, and that you are inclined to think he may have altered his Resolution. All I can say is to refer your Lordship to what I have already writ you about this matter. As to the Affairs in the North, I can tell your Lordship that the King is resolved to do all he can to prevent a War there. He has acquainted the *French* Ambassador with this Resolution, and hopes the most Christian King will do the like; and your Lordship may use the same Language in your Discourse with the Ministers of that Court.

I have your Lordship's Letter of the 20th, and have communicated to Mr. Secretary *Vernon* the Information you had received from *John Grace*; and particularly that part, which mentions his having sent a Letter by one *Walter Tooth* to Mr. Secretary, who tells me that he received lately a Letter, without any Name to it, dated at *St. Germain's* the 10th of *February*, the Writer whereof gives him an account, that several Persons were gone to *England*, in order to murder the King. That one *Antony de Rose*, a *Spaniard*, is the Chief of them; that *Durants* went with him, as also three *Spaniards* and three *Swiss*. He gave some Directions where this *Rose* might be found, whom Mr. Secretary *Vernon* has accordingly taken up and examined: He owns to have come from *Rouen*, and that several other Passengers came over with him, but he does not know them, and they seem to him Persons of no Note. *De Rose* was indeed born in *Spain*, but was formerly a Servant to an *English* Gentleman, and is married here. He pretends to know nothing of *Durants*. Mr. Secretary will further examine him: but I must observe to your Lordship, that this Account sent Mr. Secretary, is very different from what was given to you, and may make the truth of it suspected. However, your Lordship may please to inform yourself whether *Durants* be come for *England*; and here all possible care will be taken to inquire further concerning the Persons you mention.

I sent your Lordship the Petition of *Abigail Smith*, alias *Allaire*, by His Majesty's Command; who would have you make Instances in his Name, that she and her four Children, who are His Majesty's Subjects, may be at liberty to come for *England*. As to the Case of the Wife and Daughters of Mr. *Fleming*, I do not know that your Lordship can do more than you have done already; but I cannot avoid troubling you with the inclosed, at the importunity of their Friends here.

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Affairs of STATE.

III

If the business takes air, as *Monf. de Torcy* says, I believe it comes from the *French*. Your Lordship is to recommend the Secrecy of it. I have Orders to do the same thing here to *Monf. Tallard*; but it will be hard to keep a secret, when People have a mind to tell. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 18. 1700. O.S.

I Have laid your Excellency's Letter of the 24th, N. S. before His Majesty. As to the Proceedings of the King of *Poland* against the *Swedes*, His Majesty is of opinion that it may prove of dangerous Consequence. Your Lordship may tell *Monf. de Torcy*, that His Majesty would gladly know what Measures the King of *France* has ordered his Ministers to take in that Affair; and you may assure him, that His Majesty will use his endeavours towards the hindering the Progress of this Evil, and will contribute all he can to the quiet of *Europe*. His Majesty has already given Orders for the fitting out a Squadron for the Northern Seas.

The Affair is finished in *Holland*, as you will doubtless have heard from thence, before this comes to your hand.

Tho' I do not find any of your Letters have been opened, yet I believe you will think it necessary to write with equal caution, as tho' they were.

I am really concerned that the Treasury is so backward as to your Payments. I have, and shall continue to solicit your Cause, as effectually as I can, being very truly, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Mar. 31. 1700.

THE Treaty is come from *Holland*, tho' the Counter-part be not yet; because, as *Monf. de Torcy* said, they could not tell but the Courier might have been stopp'd in *Flanders*, so they would not send them together. It does begin to take air, and Count *Zinzendorf* has some notice of it, having discoursed to me of the several Heads. I have been far from giving him any light into that Matter; only so far, as I have often said before, when I found him alarm'd at the Illness of the King of *Spain*, that I thought it would be happy for *Europe*, if there could be a Compromise, but that would very much depend on the Emperor. He said, I might be assured the Emperor would agree to any thing, that was reasonable. I avoided always going any further without Orders; tho' I cannot see but he will be soon informed of this whole matter, whenever it is again proposed at *Vienna*.

The last Letters from *Madrid* are of the 16th instant; and tho' they seem to say the King is better, yet, say they, that he often keeps his Bed by precaution.

It is believed that the Proceeding of the King of *Poland* will come to nothing. The Town of *Riga* cannot be taken, as his Envoy here owns, with less than Sixty Thousand Men. But he had hopes, that the People there, and in *Livonia*, would have revolted; which proves quite otherwise. The *Danes* are marched into the Territories of the Duke of *Holstein*; tho' the reasons they give, are of the same nature with those of the King of *Poland*. I do believe this Court will do what they can, in order to a Peace in all parts. The reason why I think so is, because *Monf. de Torcy* says it would be necessary, that most of the Princes in *Europe* consented to what is agreed on in *England*; which cannot so well be done, if they are in War one with the other. Your Lordship will judge better of these things, only I think it proper to acquaint you with what is said here. *Monf. de Torcy* is much changed since *Monf. de Pomponne's* death, and is extremely obliging to all the Ministers, and especially to me. He is very open, and easy to discourse with,

with. The late King and Queen were to make a visit yesterday at *Versailles*. I dined with *Mont. de Torcy*. They were not to be there 'till the Evening, so I was gone from *Versailles* before they came. Some Discourse on that Subject happened at table. The Son of Count *Bosselli* is now resolved to go to *England* with a Letter from the Duke of *Mantua*. I cannot tell if the King will like it, so I have prevented his Journey for the present. He has often pressed to wait on me, but I have always declined it, since I will not concern myself. I desire to know whether the King would have me stop him, which cannot be done, unless I assure him His Majesty does not approve of his coming.

I cannot tell what to make of *la Personne*. I have sent your Lordship a Copy of the last Letter I received from him, which was before I received your last Orders concerning him. He has ever since been missing: but I hear he is now returned to *St. Germain*, and it may be we shall soon hear from him. When one deals with such Persons, one cannot answer for the success, which would make me a little unwilling to propose any thing of such a nature again, did I not take it to be my Duty to contrive all things that may be for His Majesty's Service. I found Sir *William Ellis*, at my first coming, very desirous to get acquainted with one in my Family, which Mr. *Prior* knows; being well assured of his honesty, and besides it not being in his power to acquaint him with any thing of consequence, I ordered him to meet him, whenever he desired it. At first Sir *William* thought he could have gained him to their Party, but by the Directions I gave him, he perceived he was very desirous to go for *England*; so that at last he proposed it to him, as from himself, saying, that the Service he might be capable of doing, might make him so considered there, as to be made to live easy; that if he should let pass this Opportunity, he might never have another again. This he did to him as a Friend, and he took some time to consider of it. I need not repeat what passed in several Meetings afterwards; only, in conclusion, he gave him leave to mention this matter to me, and I have assured him that I will do him what Service I can, with all secrecy imaginable, in case it should not take effect, his Life being in danger, if he be discovered. I take him to be one of the most active Men, and of the most Understanding at *St. Germain*. He always said this Design of the *Scotch* would come to nothing, tho' the others were in great hopes. His business at *Paris* is to persuade the *English* to go to the late King, and to get the best Information he can of all matters. In case the King approves of it, then the only method, he will hear of, is a Proposal from his Brother in the Office, with an Assurance of his Pardon, and an Allowance of five Hundred Pound a Year, payable from him. When the Person told him, that this might be thought too much, he said he had not much less from hence, and he should be sorry to live in *England* with Contempt, after the figure he had formerly made there; besides the loss of his Estate, which was very considerable, would make him look very little; that means might be found out, by giving his Brother some place, which might pay this without any expence to the King. I have reason to think him sincere, but shall judge better of it, in case His Majesty approves that such a Proposal should be made to him. This Letter may be sent to me, without any Superscription, lest it should fall into other hands. I must tell you how this matter stands at present. He does expect the Proposal should come from us, and not as if he did seek it, and would act upon honour. I cannot judge what this means, but that he will not be obliged to be an evidence, but would do all the Service he could, according as he should be looked upon when there. Before this matter is concluded, I shall endeavour to make him explain himself more fully, but as yet I think it unnecessary 'till I have His Majesty's Orders. I cannot see what advantage he can propose to himself, if he should not have any such Intention; unless that, by shewing this Proposal to the late King *James*, he might hope to have his Pension increased: but I cannot think that this is his Design, having a
Letter

Letter under his hand, which in that Case he would never have wrote. It is certain he is very well at present with the late King *James*, and may be of great use: at least his being in *England* might keep many in awe, by what he knows of them. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Extract of a Treaty made by the King of ENGLAND, the King of FRANCE, and the STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces, signed at London, February 21. O. S. and at the Hague, March 25. N. S. 1700.

THE Treaty of *Ryswick* is solemnly confirmed by this Treaty. In case his Catholick Majesty should die without Children, the Dauphin shall have, for himself and his Heirs, the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, in the manner in which the *Spaniards* now possess them; and also the Islands on the *Italian* Coast, belonging to *Spain*, that is to say, *St. Stephano*, *Porto Hercole*, *Orbitello*, *Telamone*, *Porto Longone*, and *Piombino*, the City and Marquisate of *Final*, and the Province of *Guipuscoa*. The said Dauphin shall also have the Dutchies of *Lorain* and *Bar*; and the Dutchy of *Milan* shall be given to the Duke of *Lorain* and his Heirs, in lieu of *Lorain* and *Bar*; but the County of *Bitch* shall remain in Sovereignty to the Prince of *Vaudemont*.

The Arch-Duke *Charles* shall have, for himself and his Heirs, the Kingdom, of *Spain*, and all that belongs to them, in and out of *Europe*.

The Emperor shall have three Months time given him to come into this Treaty. In case the Arch-Duke should die without Children, the Succession shall go to some other Child of the Emperor, and to whom his Imperial Majesty shall be pleased to give it, except him, who shall be Emperor, or King of the *Romans*; and this part of the Monarchy of *Spain* shall also never go to the Prince, who shall be King of *France*, or Dauphin.

Secret Article of the PARTITION-TREATY, signed at the Hague, March 25, 1700.

HIS *Britannick* Majesty, his most Christian Majesty, and the Lords the States-General, having a desire to prevent a War, which might be occasioned by the death of the King of *Spain* without Children, have agreed on a Treaty about the Succession, which was signed at *London* the 21st of *February* O. S. and at the *Hague*, the 25th of *March* 1700. N. S. And as it is said in the fourth Article of the said Treaty, that the Dutchies of *Lorain* and *Bar* shall be yielded to the Dauphin, in exchange for the Dutchy of *Milan*, which should be given to the Duke of *Lorain*; and as the two Kings and the States-General think that nothing is more proper for the ends proposed, they will make use of all their Interest, either jointly or separately, to engage the said Duke of *Lorain* to consent to it.

But as it is necessary to determine, who shall be the Prince to whom the Dutchy of *Milan* shall be committed, and what shall be given to the Dauphin for reparation, in the room of the Dutchies of *Lorain* and *Bar*, if, against all likelihood, the Duke of *Lorain* would not give his consent to this Exchange, notwithstanding the good Offices and continual Applications repeated during the Life of the King of *Spain*, or to the time here under-agreed to, after his death: The said two Kings and the States-General, above-named, have agreed, That in that case His *Britannick* Majesty and the States-General shall chuse one of these Alternatives, at the end of the said term, after the death of his Catholick Majesty, that is, to consign the Dutchy of *Milan* into the hands of the Elector of *Bavaria*, to enjoy it for him, his Children, Males or Females, his Heirs, Successors, and Descendants, Males or Females, born, or to be born,

for ever, in intire Property and full Possession, ordering in exchange *Navarra* to the Dauphin, to enjoy it, he and his Children, Males and Females, his Heirs, Successors, or Descendants, born, and to be born, in intire Property, and full Possession; or instead of *Navarra*, the City and Dutchy of *Luxembourg*, and the County of *Chiny*.

Or else to give the Dutchy of *Milan* to the Duke of *Savoy*, to enjoy it for himself, his Children, Males and Females, Heirs, Successors, and Descendants, Males or Females, born, and to be born, in all Property, and full Possession; ordering in exchange for the share of the Dauphin, the City and County of *Nice*, the Valley of *Barcelonetta*, and the Dutchy of *Savoy*, to enjoy it in Perpetuity and full Possession, he, his Children, Heirs, Successors, and Descendants, Males or Females, born, and to be born.

Moreover, the two Kings and the States-General have agreed by this Secret Article, that tho' it is not said in the seventh Article of the said Treaty, signed at *London* the 21st of *February*, and at the *Hague* the 25th of *March* 1700, that a Prince shall be agreed on, to whom the said Portion of the most serene Arch-Duke shall be given, in case the Emperor and the King of the *Romans* will not subscribe to the said Treaty, after the term of three Months shall be expired, to be counted from the day, on which it shall be notified to him; nevertheless the Emperor shall be allowed to subscribe during two Months, to be reckoned from the day on which the death of his Catholick Majesty shall be made known to him by His *Britannick* Majesty, his most Christian Majesty, and the Lords the States-General. But in case his Imperial Majesty refuses to enter into it, in the time above-named, the two Kings and the States-General shall agree, at the end of the time above-appointed, on a Prince, to whom the said Portion shall be given, and the remainder of what is in the said seventh Article, from which what is above-said does not derogate, shall be punctually executed.

It is further agreed, that if the most serene Arch-Duke should go into *Spain*, or into the Dutchy of *Milan*, tho' it is said in the eighth Article of the said Treaty, to which this secret Article refers, that he cannot go thither before the death of his Catholick Majesty, but by the common Consent of the two Kings and the States-General; His *Britannick* Majesty and the States-General engage themselves to use all their possible endeavours and might, and even to come to Acts of Hostility, if it be necessary; in short, to take all convenient Measures, in concert with his most Christian Majesty, to oblige his Catholick Majesty and the *Spaniards*, to send him back out of *Spain*, or out of the Dutchy of *Milan*, without any delay.

This Article shall have the same force, as if it had been, word for word, inserted in the Treaty, to which it refers, and shall be enregistred by the Parliament of *Paris*, immediately after the death of his Catholick Majesty without Children.

Done and signed at *London* the 21st of *February* O. S. by the Plenipotentiaries of *England* and *France*, and on the 25th of *March* 1700, N. S. at the *Hague*, by the Plenipotentiaries of *France* and of the States-General.

A Letter from the King of SWEDEN to the States-General.

Translated out of Latin.

We Charles, &c.

WHEREAS we have been well informed, by sudden and unexpected Messengers, that the Troops and Companies, who have hitherto been called *Saxons*, and who have for some time subsisted in *Livonia* near *Poland*, and went thence into *Courland*, have now, by a sudden and unforeseen March, for no manner of Reason or Provocation on our part, without any previous notice, and therefore very unjustly, and in a manner not at

all customary among Christian Princes and States, made a hostile Irruption and Invasion into our Province of *Livonia*, oppressed with Arms in hand the Soldiers that were near the Limits, attack'd some Forts and Castles, and advanced at last their hostile Ensigns to *Riga*, the Metropolis of that Province, forcing the City into a necessity of burning the beautiful Suburbs, erected at a vast Expence for use and ornament, in order to defend their Walls. By these and other Crimes, it is plain that this open hostile Aggression is designed against us. We call the supreme God to witness, that nothing has been done or thought of by us, that could give a handle for such violences, or furnish even a pretext for disturbing the Peace. We cultivated a sincere Friendship and Confidence with the King and the Republick of *Poland*; and we assured one the other, by our Ambassadors, of our good Will and Affection: we have still our Ministers there, and we never heard of any Complaint or Grievance from *Poland*, that might give even a suspicion of uneasiness; we are not engaged in war with any body, to whom these Troops might be called Auxiliaries: Nay, we have not hitherto heard in whose Name, and by whose Authority, this Invasion is made; we are only told, that there is one *Flemming* Lieutenant-General to the King of *Poland*, under whose conduct and command these Troops began to ravage. Whilst then this Invasion is to be looked on as very vile and wicked, and will justly incur the divine Vengeance, and the blame of all that have any sense of honesty; We could not but give you notice of it, not doubting but you will look upon this enormous and inhuman Invasion, as what ought to be stopp'd by the help of all Christian Princes and States; that so the lately obtain'd Tranquillity in *Europe* and the World may not, by warlike tempest, be plunged back into the former Disturbances. We have therefore ordered our Envoy Extraordinary, the Baron of *Lelienroth*, to shew you more amply the nature of the Fact and Transaction, and to let you see how abominably the Treaties of *Oliva* are broke and profaned, that the Aggressors are to be esteemed the Authors and Accomplices, and that it is they, who sling Oil into the Fire; that he may further insist on the Confederacy and the common Concern for which we have mutually joined against any Aggressor, and about what shall be thought necessary and fit to repulse these Motions, which are ready to break out into greater Flames, and into melancholly and doleful Losses to the Christian World, unless timely prevented. And we do not doubt but you will hear him, and consult with him, with your considerate Benevolence, and adhibit your Assistance, as it is fit to do among Friends and Confederates; by which means these wicked Undertakings may be very soon and most efficaciously repuls'd; by this you will increase our Confidence in you, and our reciprocal Study to deserve the same from you. For the rest, we recommend you to the Divine Protection. Given at our Palace in *Stockholm* the 14th day of *March* 1700. O. S. Your good Friend and Confederate,

CAROLUS.

J. POLUS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hambourg, April 2. 1700.

I Was yesterday favoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 26th of *March*, for which I return my Acknowledgements.

Your Excellency will see by the *Placart* inclosed to Mr. *Stanyan* from Mr. *Greg*, that the poor Duke of *Holstein* is once again used like the Duke of *Lorain*, being dispossessed of his Country with great Civility. The way of taxing in *Holstein* being by so much a Plough, the Duke may raise, monthly, one Hundred and Fifteen Thousand Crowns.

The Northern Affairs depend entirely upon the appearance of the *English* and *Dutch* Flags in the *Sound*. It is a folly to expect Peace by any other Argument.

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The Court of *Berlin* waves in this Conjunction, and that of *Vienna* is not like to do much good. *Zell* and *Hanover* are firm, but cannot act 'till Sea-forces make a Diversion.

We have no certain News from *Livonia*, but have reason to believe the *Saxons* are retired. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 3. 1700.

I Am to acknowledge your Lordship's of the 14th and 18th of *March*, which came together. I shall now soon see *Monf. de Torcy*, and will not fail to obey your Orders. I am satisfied that the account I gave you in mine of the 20th of *March*, N. S. is not true, as I have already told you. I have reason to think that the Letter, which Mr. Secretary *Vernon* received, came from the same Person; and that which convinces me the more is, that *Durants* has been dead some time: So one may easily judge of the rest. I perceive they have had an account of this Letter at *St. Germain's*, which makes them uneasy, because they think it comes from Father *Clark*, alias *Cosmo*. I forgot to tell you in my last, that *Monf. de Torcy* said, that he understood from *England*, that Count *Zinzendorf* had wrote thither, that he had acquainted him with the Affair, which he assured me he was far from doing. He may say the same thing of me. At present all that matter is quiet, and I do rather think it is only the Uneasiness of him here, and also of him in *England*, who wants to be informed of what is a doing. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 7. 1700.

I Have obeyed your Orders, and have discoursed with *Monf. de Torcy* about the Affairs in the North. I cannot see any Inclination in this Court to proceed further than by endeavouring to persuade those Princes, that are concerned, of the ill Consequences a War may have; that the *French* King has, and will order his Minister in *Denmark* to press that matter home, and as far as possible, shewing them that these late Proceedings of theirs, must otherwise necessarily engage the King of *England*, &c. to assist the Party injured. Upon my saying that the King had ordered a Squadron to be got ready (I was willing to go so far, to see what their Intentions were) and my asking if *France* would likewise act in that manner, in case it could not be otherwise composed, and that I thought these were the only Means to bring that Matter to a good Conclusion; he said, that the *French* King's Opinion was, and that he hoped, that there would be no occasion of coming to that Extremity; that the very Report of our King's intending it might have the same effect, and would be sufficient to bring the King of *Denmark* to agree to reasonable terms; that, in his judgment, the sending of Ships ought to be deferred as long as is possible, lest it might make the *Danes* more obstinate, since they would then look upon it as a force; and especially since, by all the Advices they had, there was little likelihood that the King of *Poland* would succeed. I did agree with him, as to the King of *Poland*, that it seemed so, but that would depend very much upon the Resolution the Republick of *Poland* would take, and whether they would approve of the action of their King; which if it should happen, Reasons and Arguments would prevail but little, and as the *French* King was Mediator and Guarantee to the Treaty of *Oliva*, it would depend much upon the Measures he took: all which made the King desirous to know what Orders the *French* King had given his Minister, that was to go to *Poland*, since He, on His part, would endeavour to prevent the Progress of so great a mischief. He said, the Orders were not yet sent, but would

would be sent very soon; that he was to endeavour to dissuade the King of *Poland* from proceeding any further, shewing him the ill Consequences this War might produce. When I pressed him by saying, in case this should not take effect, whether other measures would not be taken; he said, as the King of *France* was Mediator, he could not make himself a Party, by engaging on either side: tho' at the same time he seemed to think that the King of *Poland* would not find that Assistance he expected, so that this matter could not last long; and that as to *Sweden* and *Denmark*, there would be no occasion for the *French*, since *England* and *Holland* would be sufficient. It is my opinion, that this Court will not engage further than by doing the best offices they can to prevent a War, since it may be they think it their interest at present to be well with all. I mentioned the desire the King has that the Affair might be kept as secret as was possible, which he believed would be very difficult; tho' the only means of doing it, was, on all occasions that should happen, to declare there was no such thing agreed on. Count *Tallard's* Secretary goes for *England* this day with the Ratification, and they wait for that from *England*. I have nothing to add, but to assure you that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 10. 1700.

I Have received your Lordship's of *March* the 25th, O. S. I shall take what care I can to know the use that Person I mentioned may be of; tho' till some proposal be made him, he will be very shy, that being much his Temper. I take it that his Relation will be able to persuade him to do all the services he can, when he shall come to *England*. He must certainly know if any design is carrying on against *England*, who are the Persons that correspond, and what encouragement they have from *England* and *Scotland*. These are my present thoughts, which I submit to your Lordship's.

I have just now received the inclosed.

Brisac was evacuated on the first instant, as it was promised. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 1. 1700. O. S.

I Have laid your Letter of the 7th instant, N. S. before the King. Your Lordship may continue to represent to the Court of *France* the ill Consequences that a War in the North will produce, and that we do not question but *France* will take the methods which will be properest to avoid these mischiefs, and which will contribute most effectually to the re-establishing a Peace in those parts. I have heard that *Denmark* is courting *France*. They will without doubt make them very large offers and promises; but we rest assured that his most Christian Majesty will prefer the publick Good to any other Consideration whatsoever. As to the Squadron that is fitting out, it will require some time; so that the Report of it will probably be sufficient to produce the effect we desired by this preparation.

As to Sir *William Ellis*, His Majesty would hear what your Lordship may say more particularly on that subject, before he proceeds to more particular directions therein. As to what you mention in your's of the 20th of *March*, *Tooth* has been with Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, and gives a List of Names, which he says he had from *Grace*. The whole Account, as he gives it, is very imperfect. It is advisable that *Grace* should be encouraged to come over, and to make good his information. Your Lordship may promise him, that if he does the service which he pretends to do, he shall not only have the Licence

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he desires, but be rewarded proportionably to his merit: but if he does not, he shall have liberty to return from *England* unmolested.

The Proprietors concerned in the *Dantzick* Ships having again apply'd to His Majesty in that Affair, I am ordered to desire your Lordship to renew your Sollicitations therein to the Court of *France*, that the thing which has indeed been too long depending may at last be determined. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

April 1. 1700. O. S.

FOR above these two Months past, I have not had an opportunity of sending over a *Horace*, which we printed at *Cambridge*, and which my Lord Duke of *Somerset*, our Chancellor, presents to the King of *France's* Library, with a Letter which his Grace writes on that subject to the Abbé *de Louvois*: but I have at last sent them by a Footman who quitted my service. The Book and Letter will be, or is already delivered to Mr. *Stanvan*, and the favour we beg of your Excellency, is, that you would honour this Book with a word, by which the Court of *France*, and particularly the Archbishop of *Rheims* and Abbé *Louvois* may take notice that the University of *Cambridge* would establish a fair Correspondence with the Learned on your side. By next Post I shall write something to the *Soubibliothecaire* Mr. *Clermont* concerning the *Greek* Cyphers we would buy of them; in this likewise I must desire your Lordship's good offices, since without your appearing concerned in it, we shall hardly make our matters bear as we desire.

Mr. *Vrybergen* came on *Friday*. I have not yet seen him. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. CRESSETT.

S I R,

Paris, April 16. 1700.

I Have received your's of the second instant, *N. S.* and am of the same opinion with you, that there is nothing to be done in your parts till the *English* and *Dutch* Flags appear, which I hope will not be long.

I hear you are going to *Berlin*, which may make the Elector more steady. His Envoy here seems concern'd that it should be thought in *England* as if his Master was not as zealous as others to prevent a War: but he says also, that as the Emperor is one of the Mediators, so the Elector cannot declare himself more fully, till he sees what measures that Court will take. The *Swedish* Resident has had an Audience of this King. His Orders were to acquaint Him with the Proceedings of the King of *Poland*, and to demand his Assistance, as Guarantee and Mediator of the Treaty of *Oliva*. He delivered a Letter from his Master to the same purpose. The *French* King's Answer was, That he had already done, and would continue to do all the good offices he could; but declined the giving of any assurance of Assistance. *Denmark* would have *France* declare for them, and would agree to any thing *France* could desire; but I have good reasons to think they will not obtain it. I am told that the King of *Poland* has engaged himself to this Court not to support the Town of *Dantzick*, nor concern himself with the disputes between *France* and them. You will do well, when you are at *Berlin*, to endeavour to know what steps *Monf. de Heron* takes in *Poland*, or whether there is any secret Transaction on foot. In case there should be, it will rather regard the Emperor than us. I desire to hear from you wherever you are, and I shall not fail to let you know if any thing considerable passes here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 17. 1700.

MR. Prior will have told you the Reason why I did not write by the last Post. There is little Alteration in the Affairs here. Monsieur *Palmquist* has had a private Audience of the King, wherein he delivered a Letter from the King his Master, and at the same time, as his Orders were, did acquaint the *French* King of what had passed in relation to the King of *Poland*, and demanded his assistance as Guarantee and Mediator of the Treaty of *Oliva*. I find he also assured the *French* King, that in the Treaty of Alliance, which *Sweden* had lately made with *England* and *Holland*, there was nothing that could be prejudicial to his Interest; that it was not yet ratified, and he supposed that His Majesty would also be informed of it, &c. The *French* King's Answer was, that he believed he was already informed of the steps he had taken: That his Minister in *Poland* had orders to do all the good offices possible to bring matters to a good understanding; that he might assure his Master that he would contribute all he could to the quiet and peace of *Europe*; that since he had assured him that there was nothing contrary to his Interest in the late Alliance which his Master had contracted, he would believe it, tho' he should be able to judge better when he saw it. This Account I had from himself, and he is of the same opinion with me, that there is little to be expected from this Court, further than good offices. I am told, tho' Mons. *de Torcy* did not acquaint me with it, that the King of *Poland* has promised to this King not to assist the Town of *Dantzick*, nor to concern himself with any thing that may happen between *France* and them. This I find was one of the inducements that made Mons. *de Heron* be sent. I suppose they will expect some submission from *Dantzick*. I hear they pretend to support their Ambassador at the *Port*, even so far as to declare War against the *Turks*, if there be occasion. If so, I shall think they push this matter very far, and they risque the loss of this Trade, which *France* cannot well spare, having at present but little elsewhere. It is certain that they are fitting out six great Men of War at *Toulon*.

Monsieur *Spanheim* seems very uneasy at their saying in *England* that the Elector his Master was not as zealous as any other to prevent a War in those parts, and has used several Arguments to me, to prove that the Elector could not at present act otherwise than he has done; that he had wrote very pressingly to the King of *Denmark*, and also to the King of *Poland*; that he had refused the King of *Poland* the Assistance of any of his Troops, which he desired of him, and that by all the Advices he had from *Berlin*, he was satisfied that the Elector desired nothing more than to act to the liking of the King of *England*, and he hoped I would take notice of it when I wrote next. I told him I would not fail to do it, and that I did imagine there was the same good understanding as ever between the King and the Elector; that he knew very well the various Reports we have had here; as that the King of *Poland* had taken his measures with the Elector, &c. tho' now we have reason to believe the contrary; that these Reports may have made some impressions in *England*, tho' I could not tell that they had; that, besides, the Elector's not having declared himself so fully, as the Guarantees have done, may have given some grounds for these suspicions. He owned that what I said was true; but that as the Emperor was also a Mediator, he thought it was not proper for the Elector to declare himself more fully than the Emperor has done. Besides, the situation the Elector was in, obliged him to be more cautious than others, not knowing as yet the Resolutions *Poland* will take, which may make it necessary for him to be upon his guard.

The Countess of *Berlips* is soon expected here from *Madrid*. Monsieur *de Torcy* has dispatched the Passes, and sent them to meet her on the way.

Count *Zinzendorf* would have taken care of them, but this Court chose rather to do it themselves, in order to oblige her the more.

I must beg the favour of your Lordship, if you think it not too great a presumption, to assure His Majesty of my most humble Duty, and tell him how gratefully I should acknowledge the Obligation, if he would Christen my Son. If I have that honour, the Duke of *Grafton* will be the other Godfather, and my Lady *Sunderland* the Godmother. I hope your Lordship will pardon this trouble, and believe me to be entirely, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 21. 1700.

UPON my receiving your Lordship's of the first of *April*, O. S. I took occasion to discourse further with *Monf. de Torcy* concerning the Affairs of the North; when I acquainted him how well the King was satisfied with the Account I had given him, and that he did not doubt but *France* would take such measures as were proper to prevent these Mischiefs. Then I said, as from myself, that the Reasons why *Denmark* had not agreed to any Accommodation, might possibly be, that they flatter themselves that as *France* had not declared against them, as others had seemed to do, they might possibly be at last on their side. He repeated again all the Orders the *French* King had given his Ministers, and said, I might assure the King, that there shall be no step taken without his knowledge, nor any Treaty made without his approbation; and he did own, that what made it not proper for this King to declare against either the King of *Denmark* or *Poland*, was, that it might have this Consequence, that when they found themselves wholly abandoned, they would then make such Terms as were pleasing to the Emperor; which might in some measure defeat all that had lately passed, especially since most Princes are to be included in that, and endeavours are to be used accordingly. This makes them more cautious; and I am apt to think, the Court of *Vienna* will also not disoblige the King of *Poland*. Time will shew which way he inclines. I rather believe it will be to *France*. *Monf. de Torcy* told me, that both *England* and *Holland* pressed that *France* would send a Squadron to the *Baltick*: but he said there was no occasion for it, they being sufficient; and besides it was not advisable at this juncture, for the Reasons he had mentioned. I do also find by *Monf. Meyercroon*, that this Court will not contribute to the Peace in those parts otherwise than by good offices: tho' I do believe *Denmark* has made them all the Offers and Promises that were possible to engage them.

I have again press'd *Monf. de Torcy* about the Effects taken by *Du Bart* on board the *Dantzick* Ships. He tells me that Town is sending Deputies hither; that if I could get a true state of those Goods, and also of their Value, that care should be taken of it, provided the Deputies would own they did belong to the *English*.

I think I have prevented the Count *Bosselli's* Son's going to *England*, but have had a good deal of trouble.

Monf. Palmquist has Orders to wait on me in the manner I desired. I suppose Mr. *Stanhope* is to do the same in *Holland* to the *Swedish* Ambassador. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The following Paper was sent at the same time.

I Am told that one *Richard Connel*, Brother to him that was seized at *Loo* last year, and who is now a Lieutenant in the Regiment of *Picardy*, went from *Dunkirk* for *England* some days ago, but he does not yet himself

himself know what he is to do there, as he wrote to his Wife. I am likewise assured that there went from hence two days ago, for *Rouen*, one *Kelly*. He is to embark there on board a *Scotch Ship* that is to land him at *Leith*. He is said to carry with him Commissions, and other Papers of consequence, and has the Pictures of the late King and the pretended Prince of *Wales*, which will be a mark to know him by. Lord Viscount *K——n*, and one Captain *S——d*, both *Scots*, set out yesterday for *Rouen*, and are to go on board a *Scotch Ship*. The Master's name is *Cocbourn*, but the Ship's name I cannot learn. He has undertaken to land them at some unsuspected place in *Scotland*, and it is probable that *Kelly* may pass in the same Vessel. I am positively told that the late King has actually remitted two hundred thousand Livres to *Scotland*, but I cannot tell upon whom the Bills are drawn.

As to *la Personne*, I cannot hear of him, and I suppose that he may abscond among the rest of the Crew, upon a Report spread here that His Majesty is persuading the *French Court* to deliver him up. Whether this is true or no, they believe it, and have Orders from the late King to lie concealed; and for an encouragement, each of their Pensions is increased with 250 Livres. As to *Grace*, I shall send your Lordship some Account of him by the next Post.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 10. 1700. O. S.

HAVING written for my Master, I have very little to add for myself, except that I am very glad my Lord *Mandeville* is come to Town, and I hope he will stay long with us. I am glad he is born at *Paris*, for had he been born here, he would have liked living amongst us so little, that I question whether he would have thought it worth his while to have suck'd. The Votes of to-day pretty well explain what I mean. God knows how the business will turn, or where this violence of the House of Commons will end. The Lords seem as yet to adhere to their Point: on Wednesday we expect the issue of all this. *Seymour* plainly said to-day, that the Original of all this proceeded from the Ministers, and from the Chief of them, the Chancellor. Many other angry sayings of this kind have been vented; and in the heat of this fury, *Kidd* is arrived, and sent up for, with his Papers, by an Order from the Admiralty. Our Friend has said nothing of late in the House of Commons. My Lord Chancellor is very sick. This is the *Abbrégé* of our Case, I think no very good one. I am going to *Kensington* the moment after I have told you that I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 24. 1700.

THE Letters of *Monday* last being not yet arrived, I have little to say. In answer to what you write concerning Sir *William Ellis*, and what use he may be of, it is hard for me to judge exactly. I have some reasons to believe he must know what has passed, and what measures are taking at *St. Germain's*, &c. It may possibly so happen, that he knows little more than what we are already informed of. They are very shy, and think they have done too much in shewing their desire to go for *England*, and they begin to think it is not approved of, because no Letter is come, as is desired. Till then, there is nothing more to be done with them: but they say when they have that, they will come to me. I do understand there have been formerly offers made, and these may prove as unsuccessful. I cannot see what inconvenience there would be in his Friend's writing a Letter, on certain conditions, that might be approved of; it would bring this matter to some

conclusion, and I cannot think what I can do more at present. It would not be convenient to repeat all the several Arguments that have passed. In short, they say, publick Ministers may be disowned, of which there are many Examples, &c.

I have discoursed with *Grace*, and must own I am not satisfied that he can make good his Intelligence; several of those he mentions, being certainly here. Nevertheless, since you think it advisable, I will suddenly send him, in case I hear nothing to the contrary, by the next Post.

The *Swedish* Resident has been to wait on me. The Advices we have from the North are, that the *Danes* are in possession of the Forts in *Holstein*, and all things were prepared to bombard the Town of *Riga*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 11. 1700. O.S.

OUR long Session is this day, God be thanked, finished; the *Irish* Grants resumed, and the Commons satisfied, at least for some time. Yesterday was indeed a great Crisis, from the Morning, when it was doubtful if the Lords would adhere to their Amendments or no; the Commons fell directly upon impeaching. The Persons they named, were my Lords *Portland* and *Albemarle*, the Articles upon which they were going, for procuring for themselves exorbitant Grants. In this State the Affair lasted 'till after the second Conference with the Lords; and immediately upon the Managers returning from the Conference, the House, tho' they thought the Lords would recede, lock'd themselves up 'till ten at night, of which you see the good effect in the Votes: they threw Fire about at every body, had a great mind to fling at our Friend *Charles*; you see what they would have done to my Lord Chancellor, and how Duke *Schomberg* and Lord *Portland* suffer in their Address, that Strangers shall not be Privy-Counsellors. God knows whither this Heat would have gone, if it had not been timely dissipated by every body's striving to come in, so that this Bill passed: upon the main, we have Life for six Months longer, and *alors comme alors*.

The Affair, upon which I came into *France*, will be quite ended to-night. Your Lordship will pretend, in any Discourse you may have on that subject, to think it was quite ended three Weeks since, or at least that you heard nothing to the contrary. I hope my Lord *Mandeville* is well, and his beautiful Mother, whom the *French* Ladies will talk to death, unless you get your doors lock'd up, like those of the House of Commons.

My Lord commands me to acknowledge yours of the 17th, and says the perpetual hurry in which we have been, must serve for a reason, that as yet he has not spoke to the King to be your Gossip: but this, my Lord says, is a favour, that he doubts not but the King will grant, and he will tell you so himself next Post. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, 15 April. 1700. O.S.

I Have laid your Letters of the 17th and 21st before the King. As to the Affairs of the *North*, I am only to repeat to your Lordship, that you continue to represent to the Court of *France*, that the publick Tranquillity, which is necessary for the carrying on the great Affair, depends upon a good Understanding between the Northern Crowns; and that you make use of such Arguments as you may judge proper to engage the Court of *France* to procure an Agreement, assuring them that His Majesty will use his best endeavours to that end.

I have given notice to the Merchants concerned in the *Dantzick* Ships, that they make out their Propriety to the Goods in question, and accordingly a List shall be sent, to the end that the Commissioners from *Dantzick* may at their arrival at *Paris* be apprised of the Marks and Value of the said Goods, that the Proprietors may obtain the Justice they have long sued for.

Mr. *Stanhope* will have the usual Directions given to our Ministers of the second Order, relating to the Precedency of Ambassadors; so that there will be no difficulty in his seeing the *Swedish* Ambassador at the *Hague*. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Copenhagen, April²⁶₂₇. 1700.

SOON after I had the honour to receive your Excellency's Letter of the 26th of *February*, the *French* Ambassador told me, that the City of *Dantzick* was about to send a Deputation into *France*, in order to make Satisfaction for that Offence, which gave occasion to the seizing of their Ships by *M. Du Bart*; which Satisfaction being once made, the Pretensions of the *English*, concerned in the lading of the said Ships, might be easily adjusted; but that, at present, he had no Orders to treat about any Agreement, in relation to the said Pretensions, but, on the contrary, to remit the Money into *France*. He has already done it in part, and there the *English* must lay their Claim, or at *Dantzick*. However, having never had any confirmation of what the *French* told us before, as if the *Dantzickers* had lately resolved, for their own Credit's sake, to satisfy all Persons concerned in the abovemention'd Ships, I was afraid that this last excuse might prove to be only a new Put-off, and therefore employ'd a Friend to write to *Dantzick* to be inform'd. This Friend (who has a good Correspondent there) has newly let me know, that the *Dantzickers* have really resolved to send such a Deputation as aforesaid, being desired so to do by the King of *Poland*: but that this Resolution was not taken 'till the 9th instant, about which time there was an Express also sent into *France*, to give Mr. *Jordan* notice of the same.

Besides what is above, Count *Chamilly* adds, that when the *Dantzickers* come once to acknowledge themselves to have been in full fault, they can no longer refuse to make Satisfaction to the *English*, who ought not to suffer for their Tumult; and that Monsieur *Du Bart*, after such a just Cause of Offence given, might as well have burnt the Ships upon the place, in which case the City that gave the Offence must have satisfy'd the Strangers concern'd in the Ladings, whose Pretensions upon the *Dantzickers* are not diminished, because the Party offended, instead of burning them, brought them up, and sold them here at *Copenhagen*. This is what the *French* have said here from the very first; but the Deputy from *Dantzick*, that was then sent hither to reclaim the Ships, made answer to it, that there was a principal Reason why the City, having given no just Cause of Offence, could not render itself responsible for the Damage that was done, which it might be interpreted to do, by a Deprecation, which always implies Guilt; and that otherwise they would not have any dispute with the most Christian King for a bare Compliment.

I humbly crave pardon for having so long deferred to answer your Excellency's Letter, but the occasion thereof was as aforesaid, being desirous of something positive to add to what I had already writ to Mr. *Stanyan* in my Letter of the 27th of *June*, and 13th of *February* O. S. and the 9th of *March* N. S. from which your Excellency will have understood, that the Money, which the Ships and Goods were sold for, was never in the King of *Denmark's* hands, but in the *French* Ambassador's, as the Ships and Goods themselves had always been, and so continued 'till they were sold; the Ambassador
having

having the entire direction of the Auction, which was done in his name expressly, and all the Money paid to his Secretary. I am, &c.

H. GREG.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, April 28. 1700.

I Waited on Madame *de Chatillon*, and gave her the Letter. She told me she knew such a Person, that took the name of *Varennés de Pointi*, and described her exactly as your Lordship mentions, and also the time she left *Paris*; but was surpris'd that she desired her to say what she knew of her. All this History, of her being married to *Monf. de Pointi*, has been examin'd by *Monf. Barbesieux*, and by the King himself, she telling her Story so well, that most People of Quality believed her, and took so much Compassion of her, that they engaged *Monseigneur* in the Affair. By these means she got Money of most of them. It did appear there were no Grounds for what she said, nor that she had any Children, nor was of the Family she pretended to be of, but the Daughter of a Servant that belonged to Madame *la Dauphine*. It is thought, that when she could live no longer here, as being discovered, she was in hopes to get something in *England*, by telling the same Story. Madame *de Chatillon* takes her to be *un peu folle*, and did not know she was in *England*, but only that she went away some time last Summer.

The Duke of *Bouillon* is at his House in the Country. When he returns, I will give him the Letter. I think after this, it is not very hard to judge of the truth of what he says further. I shall nevertheless inform your Lordship, very soon, how I find that Matter, and whether those Persons are still here that came from *Cartagena*. This Morning I sent away *Grace*. He goes by the way of *Neuport* to *Dover*, being too well known at *Calais*. I have given him Money to carry him, and have ordered Mr. *Mackay* to let him have Five Pounds more at *Dover*, if he wants it. I confess I very much doubt he will not be able to make good what he says; but he may be of some use, to discover any Persons that have been at *St. Germain's*, if they are still at *London*. He was in great necessity here, and is glad of any way to go to *England*. I give your Lordship this Caution, and have nothing more to add, but that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 18. 1700. O. S.

I Shall lay your Excellency's of the 24th before His Majesty, that I may be able to give you His further Directions concerning Sir *William Ellis*.

As to *Grace*, tho' probably he may not be able to do much good, it will be necessary that he comes over.

It is agreed, that the Affair should be notified at *Vienna* and *Madrid*. Your Lordship will therefore desire *Monf. de Torcy* to acquaint you when he imparts it to the Emperor's Minister at *Paris*, that your Lordship may no longer make the thing a secret to that Minister. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 18. 1700. O. S.

OUR Parliament-Affairs being at length finished, we have a little time to think of our private Devoirs. I must beg your Excellency therefore, (if you have not already done it) to give the *Horace* and the Duke of *Somerset's* Letter to the *Abbé de Louvois*, making the Archbishop of *Rheims* acquainted with the Duke's Present, and the desire we have to correspond with the Learned at *Paris*. I have written to Mr. *Clement* what the University desires,

desires, as to the procuring us some *Greek* Types. If your Excellency expends the Money, and are pleased to draw upon me, I will answer the Bills: I should be glad they could be got ready soon. I should not dare to trouble your Excellency, but that your Protection to the University is absolutely necessary in this occasion.

His Majesty goes to-morrow to *Hampton-Court*, and will stay there, we say, these six Weeks. At the end of a Session of Parliament, you know, we always talk of a Change in the Ministry. We do so at present, but upon what Ground I know not. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 1. 1700.

I Was in hopes to have heard, by your Lordship's Letter of *April* the 15th, that His Majesty would do me the Honour to christen my Son: but I fear the great hurry, you have been in, has prevented your speaking. I shall stay 'till the next Post, and then take the liberty to give him the King's Name, since, by Mr. *Prior's*, you seemed to think that favour would not be denied me.

The last time I saw *Monf. de Torcy*, I prest him in the behalf of *Pierre Perault*, and so far, that I have more hopes than ever I had of succeeding. He told me, if it was mentioned to the King, it would certainly be refused; but he would speak to *Monf. de Ponchartrain*, and endeavour to get him discharged as an Invalid. He then told me, he had wrote, by the *French* King's Orders, to *Monf. de Tallard*, to see what could be done for my Lord *Clare*, who is actually in the *French* Service, and was brought up in *France*. Upon this account, if the King would give him his Pardon, and liberty to go to *Ireland* to see what could be done with the Commissioners, in relation to his Estate, &c. I told him I thought it could not well be granted, because, when he was in *Ireland*, he had not the *French* King's Commission; that several Acts of Parliament have since passed, which put him into the same condition with the rest. He answered, that the *French* King would not press any thing, that was not agreeable to His Majesty, or uneasy for him to grant. He did not desire I would write any thing concerning that matter.

The first opportunity I have, I shall obey your Orders concerning the Affairs of the North. It is certain, *Denmark* would fain renew their Alliance with *France*, and I am of opinion there are Proposals made. The King of *Poland* makes also great Offers here, and has call'd on the King, as Guarantee of the Treaty of *Oliva*, on pretence that the *Swedes* have not observed that Treaty, which obliged him to this Undertaking. This is thought as extraordinary as his other Actions. I cannot find but this Court seems to desire very much that the Affairs of the North were accommodated.

The Bills for Two Hundred Thousand Livres are remitted to *Scotland*. I am told that one half is to be paid to Duke *H—*, and the other to the Earl of *H—*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berlin, May 4. 1700.

I N a private Audience with the Elector this Morning, I was given to understand, that, in short, the Publick must expect no good from hence; we observe a partial sort of Neutrality, which will hold just as long as it accommodates our particular Interest. In the mean time your Excellency may please to observe, that whatever is undertaken by *Danes* and *Saxons*, is first concerted here.

It is noised, that the *French* Squadron will follow ours to the *Sound*, tho' *Monf. Desalleurs* owns no such thing. The Ruin of *Holstein* rejoices this

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Court extremely; and as to what concerns his Majesty, their Malice is sincere. The Vision of Royalty has put all just and rational Thoughts out of our head.

I did myself the honour of writing to your Excellency last Post, but all my Packets miscarried by the Villany of a Secretary, who is run away from me, with above the value of a Thousand Pounds. I heartily wish your Excellency constant Health and Prosperity, and am, &c.

J. CRESSETT.

To Mr. PRIOR.

SIR,

Paris, May 5. 1700.

THE Court being at *Marly*, *Monf. de Torcy* will not be in town 'till to-morrow, so I must make my excuse to my Lord *Jersey* by you, for my not writing. My Wife lays all the fault on you, that we have not yet heard, if we may give the Little-one the King's Name, and I dare not venture without knowing that positively; so that at present you are a little out of favour, and will be so, unless we hear by the next Letters.

I shall do all I can to serve the University, and shall take care about the *Horace*, when I have it. Mr. *Stanyan* will acquaint you how that matter stands, and how this Book is seized at *Diepe*. I have not seen the Archbishop of *Rheims* for some time, and I believe he is gone to his Diocese.

Several of the Great Men here will dine with me to-morrow, and among them the *Mareschal de Villeroy*. He will certainly ask after you, as he often does. The little hopes our Friends at *St. Germain's* have left, is in *Scotland*; and if that fails, all things will be quiet 'till the next Meeting of the Parliament. I think, instead of a Change in the Ministers, we should have a new Parliament; that would be more for the King's Service. Not much good can be expected from a last Session. We hear here the King intends to go for *Holland* next Summer. When that is certain, pray let me know it; which will oblige, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, April 25. 1700. O. S.

I Am to acknowledge two Letters from your Excellency, of the 28th of April, and 1st of May, N. S. I shall shew Mr. Secretary *Vernon* that part which relates to *Mademoiselle de Varennes*.

Poor *Pierre Perault* has suffered very long, and is an Object of great Charity. I shall be glad to find that your Lordship's Sollicitations in his behalf have proved effectual.

Grace is not yet come, so I have nothing further to write to you on that Subject. As to Sir *William Ellis*, Orders will be given to his Brother to effect what he can with him, and accordingly the latter will write to him.

Count *Tallard* has not yet spoken to the King concerning my Lord *Clare's* business, and when he does, it is to be feared, that it will have no effect: for I doubt, if it be in His Majesty's power to do my Lord *Clare* any favour, as his Lordship's Case now stands. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 8. 1700.

I Have again recommended the Affairs of the North to *Monf. de Torcy*, and have so fully discoursed about that matter, that I cannot but think they are very sincere, and will take the best measures they can to procure an Agreement. *Monf. de Torcy* told me, that *Monf. de Chamilly* has Orders to make a new Proposal to the King of *Denmark*, viz. That neither side

side should erect any Forts during the Treaty of *Pinnenberg*; that all the Troops should withdraw, except a small number agreed upon on both sides; a time should be limited for the Examination of the Case in question, and all Parties should acquiesce in this Determination. He could not tell whether this would be accepted; but he had declared to the Ministers of *Denmark* and *Poland*, that their Masters must expect no assistance from hence; that it was with great difficulty that this King was hindered to declare against them, since the Treaty of *Oliva*, and the Instances and Sollicitations of others, did in some measure oblige him to it: that he hoped they would consider their own Interest, and contribute what they could towards bringing matters to a good Conclusion; he said also, that all the *French* Ministers had the same Orders, and that he did not wonder I should press him in this matter, since he found that the King had spoke to *Monf. de Tallard* about it; that it was very true, that the Ministers of *Denmark* did endeavour, in all places, to make it be believed, that this Court was very well pleased with what they did, but he did desire I would take off all suspicion, and assure the King, that no Treaty nor Alliance should be renewed with them, 'till after the Affairs of the North were settled; that the Reason they could not proceed otherwise at present, was, that they were to keep such measures, lest it should force them into the Emperor's Interest, which at this juncture might be of ill consequence.

I desired he would let me know, when he would mention the late Treaty to the Emperor's Minister, and what measures they intended to take, that I might act conformable to them. He said, he should not take notice of it to him 'till next Tuesday sevensnight, that they would send Orders to *Monf. de Villars* (with a Copy of the Treaty) to communicate it to the Emperor, and to send back the Courier at the expiration of eight Days, in case he had no Answer, and to declare that this King shall look upon it as a refusal: That lest the Emperor might engage the Pope, the *French* Ambassador at *Rome* is to communicate it also, and to desire it may be kept a Secret; that they think proper to act in the same manner with the Republick of *Venice*, and they will impart it to their Ambassador here, about the same time they mention it to the Emperor's Minister. As for *Spain*, they thought it not yet proper. He said, they should now soon see the Success of this great Affair, and the King would have the honour of it, and the Case was extreamly changed in two Years; that the *French* King had now all the Obligations and Interest to wish for the Life and Welfare of our King, assuring me of the great concern he was under some time this Winter, when they heard from *Monf. de Tallard* that He was a little indisposed. This I take is not unlikely, it being plainly their Interest, else I should not easily be persuaded of their good Intentions. I wish it was so elsewhere.

I cannot yet learn, whether the Commander, or any of those Persons that came from *Cartagena*, are still at *Paris*. I hope I shall be able to give some account of them by the next Post.

I have taken the liberty to write to the King, the *Venetian* Ambassador having waited on me, in the name of the Republick, and desired I would acquaint the King with a great Compliment, that they had appointed *M. Mocenigo* their Ambassador, to reside in *England*, and that he had Orders to set out as soon as possible. I find they are in hopes the King will also send somebody thither. I have also taken this occasion to return my most humble thanks for the Honour the King has done me lately. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berlin, May 11. 1700.

THO' I can send nothing that is good to your Excellency from hence, I am willing to let you know that we continue in an ill Disposition, both in regard to the Publick, and in respect of particular Spite and Malice to His Majesty's Person. I wish the Power may not be proportionable to the Ill-will.

Monf. *Desalleurs* preaches still upon the old note of insignificant *Bons Offices*. Your Excellency, being at the Fountain-head, will best discern what is to be believed of the *French* Management in this Conjunction. We cannot yet see clear into the Intentions of the Imperial Court, which doubtless greatly awes the Courts of *Zell* and *Hanover*. I expect His Majesty's Orders for leaving this Court, where I am not only useless, but by my stay prostitute His Majesty's Dignity. Your Excellency knows the Vision of a Crown has turn'd our Head. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSETT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, May 2. 1700. O.S.

I Am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 8th. I do not believe there will be occasion for *Roger's* stay: as the Affair of Sir *William*, &c. has gone thorough the Hands of the Church, so it is convenient that it should continue; and as to the great Affair, I shall take care to manage it, as you have already done, in relation to that Person's knowing it, whom you mention in your Letter. The thing itself cannot, I think, in its own nature, be long a Secret; God only knows what effect it may have, when it comes out, so strange a People are we, and so resolved not to be pleased with any thing. I shall be able, in a Post or two, to send *Brocard* some Money, out of which your Excellency will repay yourself what you have expended, before you give or order him the rest: I believe there is no great matter to be known, but such as it is, he must be encouraged.

I have only, in charge from my Lord *Jersey*, to own the receipt of yours of the 8th, and to tell your Lordship that he will answer you by sending away your Express with the first Opportunity. My Lord Chief Justice *Holt* having been here to-day, and with the King in private, has given People occasion to say, that he has refused the Seals; if it be so or not, I cannot say, but as yet the Seals are not disposed of. The King, God be thank'd, is well, which is all the News I can send you from this place. I dined to-day with Mr. *Montague* here, and drank my Lord *Manchester's* Health. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. STANYAN.

SIR,

Stockholm, May 2. 1700. O.S.

ON Monday last a Troop of *Travants* marched thro' this City for *Schonen*. A Vessel come in two Days from *Revel* reports, that the *Finnish* Army, consisting of six Regiments of Foot, and four of Horse, under the Command of General *Wellin*, were marched from *Fellin* towards *Riga*, which is twenty five *Dutch* Miles distant from thence. They had before made some Detachment from the said Army, to take possession of such Passes, which the *Saxons* had neglected, being unacquainted with the Country.

They write also from thence, that there is not the least rumour, that the *Muscovites* have any mind to stir; but on the contrary, that they are as good as sure they will continue quiet.

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The Troops, which, from their several Quarters, are in march towards *Schonen*, will not arrive there before the latter end of this Month. They may in all amount to fifteen or sixteen Thousand Men. The King of *Sweden* and Duke of *Holslein* are still at *Carelsbroon*, whence, 'tis believed, they may make a turn hither the next Week, tho' only to make a very short stay. Several *Swedish* Frigates are cruising on the Coast of *Courland*, and elsewhere in the *Baltick*, and examine all the Merchant-Ships they meet, tho' hitherto without giving them any further molestation.

I think I have not at present any of your Favours to account for, but perhaps they may be on the way, for I want two or three Packets. We expect to hear very suddenly, that ours and the *Dutch* Fleet are come towards these parts, where they will find so many of this King's Ships ready to join them, if need be, as will answer the occasion of their coming, and I hope restore a Calm here in the North. I am, &c,

J. ROBINSON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, May 13. 1700.

I Am honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 7th instant, and am extremely glad to see there confirmed what our *French* Ambassador here makes it so much his business to persuade all People to believe, that his Master will no ways contribute to foment the Differences in the North; but, on the contrary, wishes the present Motions of the Guarantees of the Treaty of *Altena* may succeed so far, as to bring the King of *Denmark* to accept of reasonable Proposals for the Re-establishment of a lasting Peace. The *Muscovite* Ambassador also declares to the Ministers here, he neither knows nor believes any such Engagement, as is talk'd of, between his Master and the King of *Poland*, nor is there any ground for Discourses of a Peace or longer Truce, agreed on, between the Czar and the Port; for here are very fresh Letters from *Constantinople*, which say, that Treaty goes on very slowly. So we have great reason to hope, that, so soon as our and the *Dutch* Squadrons join the *Swedish* Fleet in the *Baltick*, the King of *Denmark* will have more peaceable Inclinations; which I heartily wish. Besides that Peace is, in itself, a most desirable thing, but also for the sake of my own private Ease and Quiet; for I have had more trouble about that Business in the three Weeks I have been here, than in three Years of my being in *Spain*. When the Scene opens farther, of which I may expect as early information as any body, I will not fail to acquit my Promise, and am with the greatest Respect,

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Monsieur DE LUBIERES.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, May 12. 1700.

I Have received the Letter you honoured me with of the 23d past, relating to Mr. *de Rodon*, and one called *Francis Vial*, of the *Dauphiné*, established at *Orange*, since the Year 1665, and who was arrested at *Avignon*, at the desire of the Court of *France*. I took the first Opportunity to speak about these two Affairs to Monsr. *de Torcy*; who answered me, that, as to the first, he had been forbid to come into the Kingdom, because he meddled, and acted the Preacher, and went from one place to the other, fortifying the Protestants in their Belief; so that he was to be looked on as a Disturber of the publick Tranquillity: nevertheless he would inform himself more particularly of the Fact, and then give me a more distinct Answer. As to *Vial*, he says, he never heard his Affair mention'd, but that he would write to the Place, to know what was done, and would then give me the Reason.

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I have already informed Mr. *Robethon* of these Steps, and I will not fail letting you know the Issue, as soon as this Court shall have taken any Resolution on that subject. I had already demanded the liberty of an *English* Galley-Slave, called *Green*, whom you mention in your Letter, and I am not without hopes of succeeding; which you will be so kind as to let him know, as you shall have an Opportunity. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 12. 1700.

I Have sent your Lordship the whole State, relating to the *William and Jane*, taken on the Coast of *Guinea*; and, after pressing very much for an Answer here, I have obtained what I always feared, viz. that they see nothing to make them alter their Resolutions from condemning it as a Prize; so I can do no more in it, neither am I satisfied, that we are in the right in what I have asserted. I did use several Arguments to *Monf. de Torcy*, and went so far as to shew him the ill Consequences this would have, and that it might engage the *English* Ships another time to serve the *French* in the same manner. He said, if so, it would then be only a Dispute between the two Companies. I think it ought to be considered what Steps are next to be made, in case the King will engage himself further in this matter.

I do not know but your Lordship will be solicited concerning the Ship that came to *Caen*. I have done all I could to get her Fine remitted, because he was not guilty of what was laid to his charge: but it proves otherwise, and I am apt to think the piece of Cloath he brought, he intended for his own advantage, but not to pay any Duty. I cannot yet learn, tho' I have employed two able Persons, whether those Persons, that came from *Cartagena*, are still here. I did mention *Pierre Perault* again, and have some hopes, but do not much rely on it. *Monf. le Bas's* Business is now positively refused by the King, he being in the same case with others, so he must rest satisfied. The Cardinal *de Bouillon* is in disgrace, and has Orders sent him to leave *Rome*, and to retire to his Abbey near *Lyons*, under pain of Disobedience. It is thought the occasion was partly his Endeavours to hinder the *Abbé de Soubise* of the Coadjutorship of *Strasbourg*, by declaring there was Simony in the Case; but it is suspected that Cardinal *d'Estrée*, and the other *French* Cardinals, have done his business. They say he is also out of favour with the Pope, and that is sufficient at this juncture.

The Duke *de Bouillon* is still in the Country.

There is nothing stirring at *St. Germain's*; numbers of inconsiderable People go daily to *England* rather than starve here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 15. 1700.

I Had no thoughts of writing to your Lordship by this Post; but this moment I have had an account of those Persons that came from *Cartagena*, and it does appear that all she says is false. The Commander's Name was *Galifret*, and there were near five Hundred that came with him, but it is near a Year since they all returned, except four or five, and they are at *Rochelle*. As for the names she mentions, there are such Persons, and they are now on board the King's Ships. I think I need not make any further enquiry, having this from a sure hand. I hope your Lordship has received mine, which I sent by my Servant; I shall expect your further Directions, and always be, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 4. 1700. O. S.

I Send back your Messenger with an Answer to the Letter which I had the honour to receive from you of the 8th, and to that which your Excellency wrote immediately to His Majesty of the same date. The King approves of what you have hitherto done in relation to the Affairs of the North, and would have you by like discourses engage the Ministers of the Court of *France* to use their best endeavours towards the speedy composing of those differences; assuring them that his Majesty is fully satisfied with the Intentions of that Court, and with the Proposals which *Monf. de Chamilly* has Orders to make. It is not much to be feared that the *Danes* would run too violently into the Interest of the Emperor, tho' the measures that *France* should take in relation to *Denmark* were something more vigorous than they are. His Majesty has said as much to *Monf. Tallard*, and therefore in any discourse you may have with *Monf. de Torcy*, you may speak to the same effect.

Whenever the Ministers speak of the King our Master, or seem concerned for His Health, your Lordship will always return their Compliment, and take as frequent occasions as you can to intimate to them the Reality of the King's Friendship to the Crown of *France*, and the personal Esteem He has for his most Christian Majesty.

You will be pleased to answer the *Venetian* Ambassador's Compliment, assuring him, that *Signor Mocenigo* shall find all due distinction and respect in *England*; and you may say, as from yourself, that His Majesty will doubtless make choice of such a Minister to reside at *Venice*, as shall be grateful to the Republick. It is certain His Majesty will not send an Ambassador; but the Minister, whoever he is, will have a less Character: but your Excellency need not, I think, explain yourself at present on that point.

Monf. Tourton at *Paris* will have Orders by next Post to pay to your Lordship's Order sixty Pounds, which you will give to *Brocard*, having first repaid yourself what *Mr. Prior* tells me you have expended on that account.

I just now receive your Letter of the 12th instant, N. S. I shall lay the Contents of it before His Majesty, by the first opportunity.

Your Lordship will be pleased to give the inclosed, with my service, to Count *St. Maurice*. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 19. 1700.

YESTERDAY *Monf. de Torcy* acquainted the Emperor's Minister of the whole Affair. He seemed mightily surprized, and complained much of the Proceedings of our King, taking notice of the many Engagements that have been made between his Master and Him. To which *Monf. de Torcy* answered, That he thought he had no reason to complain, after what had passed on that subject at *Vienna*, and that the Emperor had been informed of every thing that was now agreed to: that this matter was not of a new nature; for that there had been a secret Treaty between the Emperor and *France* concerning the Succession of *Spain* in 1668. When I saw *Monsieur de Torcy*, he told me all that had passed, and I was glad to hear of this secret Treaty, that being a good Argument to *Monf. de Zinzendorf*, as you will find afterwards. He soon took notice of it to me, and began much in the same manner as with *Monf. de Torcy*. I told him, I wonder'd to see him so much surprized, since for some time he always assured me there was such a matter in agitation, and that it was concluded; that if he would consider a little, he would be convinced that the King had not only considered the

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Interest of *Europe*, but in particular that of the Emperor; that what might be very doubtful, and even not likely to be obtained by a War, might now be secured by a Peace, if they pleased. He said, What Faith can be expected, if the *Pyrenean* Treaty, and the Renunciation that *France* made, was not valid? To this I answered, That I believed the Emperor did not take it to be a full decision in relation to *Spain*, else he would not have made a secret Treaty with *France* in 1668, wherein he yielded much more, as I was informed. I then proceeded to shew him the situation of Affairs; I represented the Power of *France*, the Interest they have in *Italy*, as also in *Spain*; and besides, what he had often told me, that it was feared that the *Spaniards* would declare themselves for a Prince of *France*; that I was of opinion, that he himself would think at last, that this was the only way to prevent it, and that they had it now in their power. Upon the whole matter he seemed partly convinced, and he begins now to think that the King could obtain no better conditions, and that the only difficulty that will remain is what relates to *Milan*. I left him to judge, whether he thought the Princes of *Italy* would be contented that either *France* or the Emperor was Master there. After this discourse, he went again to *Monf. de Torcy*, and desired a Copy of the Treaty, which he said he would send him, and then made him some proposals as from himself, that he might be the better able to inform his Master; which he afterwards acquainted me with, and which I send your Lordship in his own words, as well as I can remember them. He is now so apprehensive lest *Spain* should declare for *France*, as you will see by the questions he asked *Monf. de Torcy*, that he will do what he can for the Treaty; and it is thought he is very well with the Emperor. He sends this day an Express to *Vienna*, and I think, one to Count *Harrach* in *Spain*, as does also the *Spanish* Ambassador, whom *Monf. de Torcy* has acquainted with the Treaty, and given him a Copy of it. He only said, it was a matter above his Understanding, but he would not fail to inform his Master of it. The *Venetian* Ambassador is also acquainted with it, and *Monf. Calliere* goes this Week to the Duke of *Lorain* to notify it to him. So your Lordship will judge it will not be long a Secret.

The News we have, is, that the Truce between the *Muscovites* and the *Turks* is concluded; and that the King of *Denmark* has declared to the Emperor's Minister, that he cannot accept of any Mediation but that of *France*, by reason the Mediators and Guarantees have shewn how much they are in the interest of the Duke of *Holstein*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French, and both Languages printed.

COUNT *Zinzendorf*, Envoy Extraordinary, asked *Monfieur de Torcy* of his own accord, after the Agreement betwixt *England*, *France* and *Holland* had been shewn him,

Monfieur de Torcy's Answers.

1. *Si la France consentira au passage de Monsieur l'Archiduc en Espagne du vivant de sa Majesté Catholique?* Whether *France* will consent to the Archduke's going into *Spain* during the Life of his Catholic Majesty?

La France y consent, a condition que l'Empereur accepte les conditions. *France* does consent to it, on condition that the Emperor accepts the Conditions.

2. *Si les Espagnols vouloient choisir un Prince François pendant le terme de trois mois, si en ce cas on consent a ne pas entendre les propositions d'Espagne?* In case the *Spaniards* would make choice of a *French* Prince, if it be agreed not to give ear to such Proposition of *Spain*?

Ouy, on y consent. Yes, it is agreed to.

3. *Qu'il*

3. *Qu'il falloit, a mon avis, entendre la cession de Naples, de maniere que cela ne serà pas que pour les Descendents de la Reine Marie Terefe, et nullement incorporé à la Couronne, ny à la Maison de France.* That the Cession of the Kingdom of Naples ought, in my opinion, to be understood as only to the Descendants of Queen Mary Terefe, and that it is by no means to be incorporated in the Crown, nor the House of France.

4. *Sil y avoit lieu de pouvoir esperer que la France changeroit, ou modifieroit quelques choses au dit Traité?* Whether there was any room to hope that France would change, or accommodate some things in the Treaty?

Qu'on tacherà de l'applanir, et qu'il n'y aurà point de difficulté la dessus. That this will be made easy, and that there will be no difficulties about it.

Que le Roy estoit dans des si bonnes dispositions qu'il donneroit la main à tout, et que ce Traité n'estoit pas d'une nature à ne pouvoir rien changer, pourveu que cela se fassé d'un consentement commun de l'Angleterre, la France, et la Hollande. That the King was in so good a disposition, that he would come into any thing; and that this Treaty was not of that nature that nothing could be changed in it, so it be done by the common consent of England, France and Holland.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berlin, May 18. 1700.

I Am leaving this Court by His Majesty's Order, and return this day towards Hamburg by the way of Zell. I would not remove without doing my self the honour of acquainting your Excellency of it, and shall not fail to let you know how matters go in the North, so soon as I reach those parts.

All I could obtain of this Court is a very doubtful Neutrality, and I only wish that in the end they do not chuse an ill party. Your Excellency knows the Weakness and Blind-side of us here: We are fond of a new gawdy Title, that like an *Ignis fatuus* leads into Precipices. The Elector goes for Prussia ten days after the Marriage, which is to be celebrated a fortnight hence; it is possible the King of Poland and his Electoral Highness will have an Interview somewhere in those parts next month, perhaps in Courland.

I believe Tonningen now actually besieged, and am afraid Mons. Banniers cannot defend so ill a place long, without succours. The Danish Fleet is at Sea, as it is said here, and the King of Denmark comes into Holstein. I shall suddenly (by the help of God) see all things a little nearer at hand, and your Excellency shall be truly informed of them. I shall find Count Chamilly, the French Ambassador, in my walks at Hamburg. I defy France to have less concern for the publick Good than has hitherto been shewn by the Imperial and Brandenburg Courts.

I am to return my Acknowledgments to your Excellency for your last favour of the 7th instant, and beg you to believe me to be, as I am, with great Respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. STANYAN.

S I R,

Stockholm, May 9. 1700. O. S.

ON the third instant the Duke of *Holstein* arrived here from *Carelsroon* to see the Dutchess and the new-born Prince, both which he found in good health. His Highness is to go back again on Friday next, after having assisted to-morrow at the Celebration of the Ceremony of Baptism of the young Prince. On Friday last the Dutchess of *Mecklenburg*, after having taken her leave of the Queen, Princesses, and the rest of the Court, went away for *Germany*. The Count *Polus* and Mr. *Akerhielm* have received Orders from His Majesty to come into *Schonen*, which it is supposed they may do a little after the Duke of *Holstein's* departure.

The Governour of this City has Orders that all such Ships which are crowned, or mark'd for the King's service, be speedily made ready to sail for *Carelsroon*, and they being above an hundred in number, make some think they are to be employ'd for a Transport of Troops. We have received news here from *Liefland*, which gives an account that the *Finnish* Troops were advanced near *Riga*, so that they expect to hear of an Engagement between them and the *Saxon* Troops. They likewise have Letters from *Moscow*, which assure this Court, that the *Czar* is far from having any intention to break with this Crown, and that he is the more inclined to remain quiet, by reason that when he was abroad, and matters were embroil'd at home, the *Swedes* attempted nothing on his Territories, and took no advantage of his Absence, of which he is very sensible. The Train of Artillery here, which is to be carried over into *Schonen*, is making ready with all expedition, to be transported to *Calmar*. I am, &c.

J. ROBINSON.

To Mr. CRESSETT.

S I R,

Paris, May 20. 1700.

I Have your's of *May* the 11th, from *Berlin* to acknowledge, and should have done it sooner, could I have sent you any thing positive. I am just come from speaking with the Ministers here, and as I have always press'd them in the Affairs of the North, so now there are Orders sent to the *French* Ministers both in *Sweden* and *Denmark*, to offer the King's Mediation. I have long foreseen they would take that way; and if it succeeds, I think it is very well: for you may be assured, nothing will be done but in concert with the King our Master; and that which will convince you the more, is the late Treaty made between *England*, *France*, and *Holland*, in relation to the Succession of *Spain*, which is now made publick, and we shall soon see what effect it will have in *Europe*. I cannot but think the Emperor will come into it. We begin here to fear very much the Designs of the Elector of *Brandenburg*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, May 20. 1700.

I Did not acknowledge the favour of your's, because the Court was at *Marly*, and I had not had an opportunity of discoursing with the Ministers here till this Morning. I find Orders are sent to *Sweden* and *Denmark* to offer the *French* King's Mediation. I have long foreseen the way this Court would take, and if it succeeds, it will do well, since they will act nothing here but in concert with the King our Master, as you will have reason to believe by the late Treaty concluded between *England*, *France*, and *Holland*, in relation to the Succession of *Spain*. It makes a great noise here,

as

as I suppose it will do all over *Europe*. We must wait a little before we can give any judgment of it; tho' for my part, I take it that what is done is for the interest of *Europe*, and I suppose the Emperor will come in. As any thing happens worth your notice, I shall let you know it; being, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 22. 1700.

THE Treaty with *England* is no longer a Secret, but now the only thing discoursed of here. I am told the King declared it publickly, as did Monsieur also, at *St. Clou*. We shall soon see what effect it has, and what measures *Spain* will take.

I have had the honour of your's of the 4th of *May*, and shall not fail to obey your Orders, and do what I can with the Ministers in relation to the North. I take the Case to be much alter'd, since all *Europe* will now see the good understanding there is between the two Crowns. There is not that occasion of those Measures that seemed most reasonable before, unless *France* has some other Reason which they will not own, and they might act otherwise than they do, or have done.

The Ambassador of *Savoy* is also acquainted with the Treaty, and very uneasy. He has endeavoured for some time to be well with the Emperor's Minister, and I have reasons to think the Duke of *Savoy* had some hopes in that Court.

I have had a message from my Lady *Limerick* at *St. Germain's*, to desire she might make an Affidavit in my presence, concerning some Papers that are lost, and related to the Affairs of the present Lord *Limerick*, she having received a Letter from him, and he has liberty, by Act of Parliament, to sue for his Estate in *Ireland*. I told the Person she sent, that I could not see what use it would be of: but that the properest way was for my Lord *Limerick* to speak to your Lordship, and then I should receive your Orders.

Last Thursday was a great Day here. The Prince of *Wales*, as they call him, went in state to *Nostre Dame*, and was received by the Archbishop of *Paris*, with the same honours as if the *French* King had been himself there. After Mass, he was entertained by him; and your Lordship may easily imagine, that all the *English* that are here ran to see him. I must confess I am surprized to see things of this nature so often done, considering the present state of Affairs. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, May 13. 1700. O. S.

I Have received your Letter of the 19th, and laid it before the King. His Majesty approves of what has been said to Count *Zinzendorf* concerning the Treaty, only as to the second Query:

Si les Espagnols vouloient choisir un Prince François pendant le terme donné de trois mois, si en ce cas ou consent à ne pas attendre les propositions d'Espagne. Ouy, on y consent.

The sense of these words, is it not this? That tho' the *Spaniards* should within the three months propose to make choice of any Prince of the House of *Bourbon*, yet the *French* shall not in that Case hearken to such a Proposition, but shall adhere to what is literally prescribed in the Treaty. Your Lordship will see, in discourse with Monsieur *Zinzendorf*, if he does not understand it thus; and take care that it be so explained to Mons. *de Torcy*,

as to leave no room for any difficulty. I have no more to add by this Post, but that I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 26. 1700.

I Have acquainted your Lordship already that the only discourse we have here, is concerning the Treaty with *England*, and I have made some enquiry which way it could come to be so soon publick; and it happened thus: The King sent for Monsieur on *Thursday* last, and informed him of it, and even of the Particulars, saying, it was no longer a secret, for he had informed most of the Princes of *Europe* of it. This was sufficient to make it known, and it was certainly designed so. It does occasion different opinions, tho' I find that the more they consider, the more they approve of it. The *Italian* Ministers were the most alarmed, by what the *French* are to have in *Italy*, with the several Ports, which makes them Masters there whenever they please. But the chief Point is, that all these places are annexed to the Crown of *France*. They say, if they were to go to a younger Son, that might make all that matter easy. We are to see here *Monf. de Torcy* tomorrow, the Court being still at *Marly*, and then I shall be better able to give you an account how Affairs stand. I hear the *Spanish* Ambassador does act very prudently, and has softened the matter as much as possible to the Court of *Spain*.

I have waited on the *Venetian* Ambassador, and returned his Compliment. I could see he was in hopes to have heard that the King had named one for *Venice*, and let fall such words. I told him, I did believe the King intended to send one to reside there, and without doubt such a Person as would be agreeable to the Republick; and so our Conversation ended, after some Compliments on both sides.

Colonel *P——r* is now at *St. Germain*s, and intends to appear publicly, as I am informed. I have received the honour of your's of the 9th of *May*, from *Hampton-Court*, and will take care of the Letter, and get an Answer as soon as I can. I am. &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, May 29. 1700.

I Never fail, when the Ministers here speak of the King, to assure them of the particular Esteem He has for his most Christian Majesty, &c. and I had yesterday a good opportunity of repeating it, at a Conference I had with Monsieur *de Torcy*, about the Treaty, &c. I am of opinion, that the Emperor's Minister here will press that matter at the Court of *Vienna*, he being more convinced than ever, that it is for his Master's Interest to agree to it; and *Monf. de Torcy* did own to me, that he found him much altered since the last time he saw him; and he told me of the Propositions he had made him, and which I have already acquainted you with. The Courier which was sent to *Monf. de Villars*, is expected back every day, and will give us some light as to which way this will turn. The Duke of *Lorain* has acceded, but it is at present a secret, as *Monf. de Torcy* says, because he is willing to keep measures with the Emperor, as you will be told by *Monf. de Tallard*, if he has not told you already. I did discourse with *Monf. de Torcy* about the Affairs of the North. I told him, that there was not now so much reason to fear that either *Denmark* or *Poland* would enter into any Alliance with the Emperor, since they now all knew the Treaty was made, and it could not be their Interest to break with *France*; and that the composing of this dispute would depend very much on the Resolutions *France* would take; and

and that I could wish they acted with a little more vigour. He owned the state of Affairs was somewhat changed; but said, that as they have not been wanting to do all the good Offices to prevent a War, so this King had now sent Orders to his Ministers, both in *Sweden* and *Denmark*, to offer them his Mediation. I have long foreseen that this was their intention, and I do not know but it may be right, since little good can be expected either from the Emperor or the Elector of *Brandenburg*. Several Arguments passed on this subject; and I found by him, that he feared the *Danes* might oppose our Fleet's passing the *Sound*, which might make a greater breach, and one harder to be made up; that *Mons. de Chamilly* had seen the Duke of *Wurtemberg*, near *Tonninghen*, who press'd that *France* would assist them, offering them a Port in *Norweghen*: but that this Court was far from accepting it; and he supposed I was satisfied that they had acted sincerely, and that they would continue to do so. This gave me an occasion to enlarge on what I mentioned in the beginning of this Letter, and on the good Understanding and strict Alliance between the two Crowns, &c. He told me that *Mons. de Heron* had had his Audience of the King of *Poland*, whose Answer was, that he would soon put out a Manifesto, by which this King and all *Europe* should be satisfied of the Infractions the *Swedes* had made in the Treaty of *Oliva*.

The Chancellor of the Prince of *Montbelliard* has been often with me, and presses me to speak to the Ministers here. I had Orders from Mr. *Blathwayt* to give him what Assistance I could; but I would know His Majesty's further pleasure. This Affair is now transacting by the Emperor's Minister, but I believe they fear the success; tho' certainly *France* has no grounds for its pretensions. I have gone so far with *Mons. de Torcy*, upon the Prince's request, as to let him know, that I had Orders to interpose in that matter: but as it concerned more the Emperor, whose Minister had laid it before him, I hoped there would be no occasion for my troubling him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, May 31. 1700.

I Desired Mr. *Stanyan* last Post, to acquaint your Excellency with my return to this place by the Court of *Zell*, where I stop'd but one day, just as His Majesty ordered me. I am now in a bustle greater than ever, as your Lordship may imagine, when, as I am writing, I can see out of my Window the *Swedish* and *Lunenbourg* Camp, the Head-Quarter being at *Wansbec*, an *English* mile distant from *Hamburg*. The *Danish* Cavalry made some opposition last night at a Pass on a small River, called the *Bille*, at *Rhenbec*; but the dispute was short, and the Prince of *Wurtemberg*, who commanded, soon forced to save himself. There has likewise been another brisk Skirmish this morning, but the *Swedes* are so strong, that the *Dane* will soon change his lofty Note. *Tonninghen* holds out yet, and if it can defend itself only four days longer, (as I hope and believe it will) it will be released. A brave and worthy Gentleman commands in the place, Major-General *Banniers*, who does all that is possible. The *Swedes* and *Lunenburghers* are effectively 16000 Men, without reckoning the *Dutch* Succours not yet arrived. I expect my Orders for the King of *Denmark* to-morrow from the *Hague*, in case His Majesty stays in *Holstein*; but it is probable he will hasten to *Copenhagen*, if *Tonninghen* is not taken speedily. Your Excellency will hear of me when any thing offers worthy your curiosity. *Mons. de Chamilly* is with the King at the Camp. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, May 20. 1700. O.S.

I Have received two from your Excellency, bearing date the 22d and 26th, and have laid them before His Majesty.

His Majesty has been informed, that *Monf. de Chamilly* has made great Compliments at *Copenhagen*, and has intimated to that Court, that the King his Master has been solicited by *England* and *Holland* to take the same measures as they have done in relation to the Rupture in the North; but that he has refused to advance any step further than those he had already made in that matter. His Majesty has likewise heard that the Elector of *Brandenburg* has been making offers under-hand to *France*, assuring that Court, that provided they will give the Elector their Assistance and Countenance, he will be ready to enter into League with the Crowns of *Denmark* and *Poland*.

This His Majesty orders me to represent to your Lordship, that you may confer with *Monf. de Torcy* about it, and intimate to him in the mildest and most friendly terms imaginable, that this is not the way to bring these matters to a good conclusion. Your Lordship will at the same time press him as much as you can possibly, that the Court of *France* may take such measures, as may be most prevalent to bring the Crown of *Denmark* to a speedy Accommodation.

My Lord *Limerick* has not yet spoken to me particularly of the Affair which you mention. His Lordship's behaviour in general is such, that any favour may be shewn him, provided it be such as the Law allows of. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, June 2. 1700.

I Had the honour of your's of *May* the 13th, and am sensible the second Proposition of *Monf. de Zinzendorf* might have been plainer by the word *Ecouter* instead of *Attendre*: but I was willing to keep to his own words, not having then discoursed with *Monf. de Torcy*: tho' now I find his Answer went further, and on that Query he said, Provided the Emperor within the term of three months signed and ratified, else they should not think themselves obliged. This he added, in order to leave him in more doubt, which he thought was proper at present; tho' he said, it was not very likely the *Spaniards* would now be more their Friends; and besides, this King would keep strictly to what is prescribed by the Treaty. I afterwards talked to *Monf. Zinzendorf*, who understands it in your Lordship's sense, and I did explain to him farther what *Monf. de Torcy* had told me concerning that matter. At first he did not intirely agree to it, tho' there was little difference, so that there can be no ill Consequence from it; and this matter is so settled, that I hope the King will approve of it.

Monf. de Torcy made some excuse to me, and said, the time would not permit them to consult first with the King in relation to the Duke of *Lorain*; and told me they had sent a Project to be signed by him, and it was not convenient to let this matter cool; that some Conditions were sent, but such as would cause no disputes: As, 1. That the Duke is not to quit *Lorain* till he is in possession of *Milan*. 2. That *Milan* should go to his Heirs and Family, as *Lorain* does now. 3. That the Dauphin should renounce all his Claim. 4. That they would not agree with the Emperor till the Investiture from him was settled, if necessary, in relation to *Milan*. *Monf. de Tallard* has a Copy of this Project; and when it is signed, which will be very soon, it will be necessary that the King and the States-General should sign an Act to confirm the

the same. *Monf. de Villars* has communicated the Treaty to the Emperor, who declared, in general terms, that he was very much inclined to the Peace of *Europe*. By the Courier, which he was to send eight days after, he will explain that matter farther. *Monf. de Torcy* says, they have an answer from the *French* Ambassador at *Rome*, and the Pope seems to approve of the Treaty. After this, he said, it would be very convenient, *England* and *France* should always act in concert in the Affairs of *Europe*; and let fall some Words, as if he understood there was a Treaty on foot between *England*, the Emperor, *Denmark*, and *Poland*; that the *Danish* Minister had made several offers in *England*, &c. I told him, I thought there was nothing of that nature, and it was not very likely, because we send our Fleet to assist *Sweden*, which was in a manner declaring against *Denmark* and *Poland*; that I supposed their Minister here had made Proposals to this Court, at least it was said so: but since the assurances he had given me, that no Alliance or Treaty should be made with them, 'till matters were composed, without communicating it to the King my Master, I was entirely satisfied, and I hoped he would be so likewise, Reports of this nature being generally spread to create misunderstandings.

I send your Lordship the answer to what you sent me, and I have had a meeting with the Person. He seemed to think the Letter very cool, and has returned another, much after the same manner: but I am satisfied he desires to return. I think it would be proper that some Proposals should be made him, and the Conditions expected should be sent; then we might see what he designs.

The Secret Treaty of 1668, was signed by the Father of Count *Aversperg*, who is now with you. The Emperor then consented that *France* should have *Naples* and *Sicily*, all *Flanders*, and the *Philippine* Islands. Count *Zinzendorf* says, he was banished for that reason.

I am told one Captain *Br.* in the Militia in *Bedfordshire*, is come lately from *England*, and has been twice in private with the late King. I will learn what I can further about this. I wonder my Letter of the 22d of *May* is not come to your hands. I send this by *Mr. Adams* of *Oxford*, who goes post for *England*.

Monf. de Torcy asked me, whether *Monf. Hop* was not to speak as well from the King, as from the States; and said it would be proper our Secretary there should also speak at least to the Ministers. I told him I could not tell, but I supposed *Mr. Hop* had such Orders. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, May 23. 1700. O. S.

ON Tuesday I had your Excellency's Letter of the 29th, N. S. and was told, the same Morning, by *Monf. de Tallard*, that the Duke of *Lorraine* had accepted the Alternative of *Milan*, as likewise that the King of *France* had ordered his Mediation to the Northern Crowns. I have nothing new to impart to your Lordship upon either of these Subjects, only to refer you, as to the latter, to what I have lately written. As to the *Manifesto*, which the King of *Poland* may publish, I believe you think it will hardly contain sufficient Arguments to convince the World of the Reasonableness of his making a War in those parts at this time.

Your Lordship will continue to do all the good Offices you can, in the Affair of *Montbelliard*, tho' (as you rightly observe) it concerned the Emperor more than it does the King our Master. I am, &c.

JERSEY.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, June 3. 1700.

I Am glad to find, by your Excellency's favour of the 28th of *May*, the Court, where you are, still seems to desire to make fair Weather with us, of which there can hardly be a surer mark than the Treaty, lately made publick there, concerning the Succession of the *Spanish* Monarchy. I wish myself at *Madrid*, for some Days, to see how those haughty Gentlemen will rage and storm to see themselves disposed of like Slaves, without so much as asking their Consent. I am pleased also to think, into what an agony this will put the Holy Father at *Rome*, and his whole College of Cardinals; they will infallibly labour, all they can, to make a League of all the Princes and States of *Italy* to keep out the *French*, and that may conduce much to keep us quiet at home: altho' I am assured lately by a very good hand from *England*, that your Court has newly sent over five Hundred Thousand Livres into *Scotland*, to be distributed to encourage the Malecontents in that Kingdom; your Excellency will probably know, if it be so, or not. Sir *George Rook* has met ill Weather off *Scheveling*, and lost some Anchors and Masts, which obliged him to return again to the mouth of the *Maese*, to furnish himself from the Admiralty of *Rotterdam*, to whom I have this day procured an Order to do it immediately. The *Dutch* Ships are all ready but two, which are to follow. *Tonninghen* holds out bravely, and, we hope, will be relieved by the Troops in march, who were passing the *Elbe* by our last Letters. The Republick of *Poland* seems more averse than ever to join in the Design of their King in *Livonia*, and the Czar is not likely to make peace with the Port; so things look better in the North, and I hope will be much better, when our Squadrons arrive in the *Zund*. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Berlin, June 6. 1700.

THE Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, the Landgrave's Lady, the Hereditary Prince, and the Princess his Sister, made their solemn Entry into this City on the 28th of last Month. It was a long while since any thing, so magnificent, had been seen here. I sent Mr. *Cresset* the Order of the March observed at this Entry, praying him to send it to your Excellency, and I doubt not but he has done it. The Marriage of the Hereditary Prince of *Cassel*, with the Electoral Princess of *Brandenburg*, was publickly solemnized on the 31st, in the great Hall of the Castle. This Ceremony was fine to see. The Foreign Ministers were at it, but without any Rank, for they sat indifferently on a Bench designed for them, whereon they even admitted several other Persons. Since that time, they do nothing here but divert themselves; and I know not when the Court of *Cassel* will set out on its return.

Your Excellency knows without doubt, that the Troops of *Lunenbourg* march to succour *Tonninghen*. The Elector of *Brandenburg* and the Landgrave of *Hesse* have, since these three or four Days, received Letters, by which the Elector of *Hanover* and the Duke of *Zell* notify to them the March of the said Troops, and explain to them the Reasons for it, saying, that it is to acquit themselves of the Obligation of their Guaranty for the Treaty of *Altena*, and the Offensive Alliance they have concluded some Years since with the Duke of *Holstein*. It has been difficult to persuade them here, that those Princes would come to such vigorous Resolutions; and some People, who are in business, said, that they wanted only to be kept back: but when it was seen that they were in earnest, that their Troops marched, and that they had even already passed the *Elbe*, they thought seriously of sending Mr. *Busb*

(who

(who has been here some Weeks) and he set out the day before yesterday in all haste for *Hamburg*, with ample Instructions to recommence the Treaty about the Affairs of *Holstein*, if it be possible. It is said, that he has Orders to go first to the Elector of *Hanover* and the Duke of *Zell*, to whom he carries the Answer of the Elector of *Brandenburg* to their Letters, to exhort them not to come to blows with the *Danish* Troops: but there is scarce any likelihood, that those Princes will suffer themselves to be stopp'd by these fine Remonstrances. We are also assured, that in case *Tonninghen* is not yet taken, Mr. *Bush* is to go immediately to the King of *Denmark*, to beg of him to desist from that Enterprize, and to raise the Siege of that Place, that so some Agreement may be made.

I hear that the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel* has a design of sending a Regiment of Foot into the Service of the King of *Denmark*, and that this Regiment is to be commanded by a Prince of *Cassel*, who is at present in the Camp before *Tonninghen*.

The Affair of the Succession to *Spain* makes a great noise here, and the News we have had of it from *Paris*, causes very different Commotions. Some are glad of it, but there are some, who are very much mortified. I believe that the *Danes* will now see, that they counted without their host, when they relied on *France*. I join to this the News which we received yesterday from *Prussia*. I am, &c.

PLANTAMOUR.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, June 9. 1700.

WHAT I acquainted your Lordship with, in mine of the 2d instant, concerning an Alliance on foot, and that *Denmark* had made offers in *England* and in *Holland*, I spoke also again to M. *de Torcy* about, being willing to have it explained by him; and I perceive now, it was only grounded on some Reports from *Holland*, and Discourses which the *French* Ambassador had had with the Pensionary, who told him that *Denmark* made great Proposals. This gave me occasion to speak to the two Heads you ordered me to speak about. He assured me, that Mons. *de Chamilly* had no other Directions, but those he formerly told me of, and that he had given the King of *Denmark* no sort of hopes, but told him the same thing, which was declared to his Minister here. As to the Elector of *Brandenburg*, he said, there had been no such Offers made to the Court of *France* by his Minister, or by his Order: yet I could perceive there had been, by other hands, and I am of opinion there is a good Understanding betwixt this Court and the Elector. I shall not enlarge on the measures they may have taken, since that is all at an end by the change of Affairs in the North. Mons. *de Torcy* told me, that he had just then received an Express from Mons. *de Chamilly*, who says, that the King of *Denmark* is under great Difficulties, upon the approach of the Troops of *Zell*, &c. which are already equal to his in number, *Tonninghen* not likely to capitulate, as he expected, and *Riga* relieved by the *Swedes*. Being in this posture, he sent to Mons. *de Chamilly* to desire this King's Mediation, and that there might be a Suspension of Arms, in order to enter on a Treaty. Monsieur *de Chamilly* had not then received his Orders to offer the Mediation, but they came soon after. Mons. *de Torcy* says further, that there is no doubt but the King of *Denmark* will hearken to any terms that can be thought reasonable, and that there would be no occasion of sending a Fleet, in case the King thought it worth while to save that expence. I told him, I did not know what measures the King would take, after he was informed how the Case stood; but that I thought the expence of the Fleet was inconsiderable, and might be a means to continue the King of *Denmark* in his good Disposition. He owned it might do good in general, but he was satisfied *Denmark* would accept any thing, that could in reason be

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proposed. *Monf. Meyercroon* spoke to me much to the same purpose, tho' he did not own his Master was under such Difficulties. He hoped the King would now shew his Friendship to his Master, since he was willing to put an end to this War; that he feared that the *Swedes*, so supported, would be very high in their Pretensions, and he asked me, whether *Monf. de Torcy* had not desired I would write, that it could not be the Interest of *England* *Sweden* should grow so powerful, &c. I told him, that I was sorry that they had brought matters to this extremity, that *Monf. de Torcy* had spoke to me, and that I should not fail to write; that I did not know what the King would do, but I had reason to believe he never had any other Intentions, than to bring matters to an Accommodation.

The Courier, which *Monf. de Villars* was to send back from *Vienna* eight Days after his Arrival, is come back. *Monf. de Villars* writes, that he had discoursed with Count *Caunitz*, that he was pressed to stay some days before he sent back the Courier; that, when they found he could not do it, they let him know that the Emperor would, in ten days time, give him a positive Answer, and that he would not take any measures with *Spain*; and they believed it would be such an Answer, as he would think worth sending by another Express. So they think here, this matter is in a good way. He told me further, that the Duke of *Lorain* desired an Explanation, concerning the Sovereignty of *Bich*, which, by the Treaty, is to go to the Prince of *Vaudemont*; that the Duke had Reasons to think he had no right to it at present, and therefore whatever he signed should not prejudice his Title, 'till the Treaty took place. This we have allowed him, and they understand that the Prince of *Vaudemont* is to have the Sovereignty, when the exchange is made. *Monf. de Torcy* took notice to me again, that the *French* King would act in nothing without consulting the King, and he supposed he was fully satisfied of it, and that he approved of what had been done. I thought it proper to assure him of it, &c. It is certain, the Credit and Reputation of the King was never so great here, as it is now. Tho' I can never be persuaded they love Him; yet, I am confident, they esteem Him, and desire His Friendship. I must tell your Lordship, all agree, that the Duke of *Savoy* is rightly served. His Minister here is very uneasy.

I dined yesterday with *Monf. de Torcy*; but before we had half dined, he was called to Council, which he did not expect, such an Accident having never happened. It occasioned several Conjectures, but I am of opinion it is about the sudden Change in the North, or about setting out a great Fleet; for I am assured this King has signed an Order for allowing eight Millions of Livres for the extraordinary Expence of the *Marine* this Year.

I have mentioned the Affair of the Prince of *Montbelliard*, his Minister here telling me, that Forces were marching to take possession of some Churches, where they had never said Mass. *Monf. de Torcy* assured me, that this matter was under examination, and that justice should be done, and he did not know that any such Orders were sent. I told him, I hoped he would prevent it; and if they are sent, it might be right, if your Lordship would talk a little about this to *Monf. de Tallard*. I have received yours of the 23d of *May*, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, June 11. 1700.

I Found myself honoured with your Excellency's Letter of *May* 28, at my return last night from the Court of *Denmark*; and return my Acknowledgements. The new Ceremonial hinder'd me from speaking to the King, so that our Declaration was made in a Conference, as we also received their shuffling Answer, in the same manner. To gain time, and perplex matters, the *Danes* fly to the Mediation of *France*; but so as to join with the old

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Mediation of the Emperor, and the two Electors; tho', I presume, *France* understands it otherwise, and will either have the work in its own hands, or not at all.

The Duke of *Holstein* is got over from *Sweden*, and I saw his Highness yesterday with the Duke of *Zell* and Elector of *Hanover*.

These Princes are now quartered at *Pinnenberg*, and lodge in the House, where the first Conference began. There is great discourse of a Cessation of Arms, but in the mean time Hostilities go forward; which will produce Peace in a short time, since the *Danes* will not come to it by other means. The Duke of *Holstein* has about an hour since sent me word, that he declines the Mediation of *France*, and only desires that Court to continue its *bons Offices*. This new Incident has perplexed the Cause more than ever. Your Excellency shall hear of me, from time to time, how things pass, notwithstanding my perpetual hurry. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, June 12. 1700.

I Have little to add to what I acquainted your Lordship with in my last. *Monf. Meyercroon* has since received an account from the King his Master of what passed between him and the *French* Ambassador, which did exactly agree with what *Monf. de Chamilly* sent to this Court: he only added, that the King of *Denmark* had quitted the Siege of *Tonninghen*, and was marching with all his Forces to oppose the *Lunenburghers*; he believes, they must have been engaged, tho' I am of opinion neither will venture a Battle, since the loss, on either side, would be of fatal consequence. The Duke of *Zell* and the Elector of *Hanover* were at *Altena*. They are here impatient to hear what Our King will do. The *Danes* rely on the Mediation of the *French*, who will endeavour to procure them the best Conditions possible. The Duke of *Zell* acts as impowered by the Emperor, which makes him no longer a Mediator. The King of *Denmark* had wrote to the Elector of *Brandenburg* an account of what has passed, and demands his Assistance, as he is engaged by several Treaties, whenever *Denmark* is invaded, as they take the case now to be.

Monf. de Zinzendorf's Courier is returned, and he says the Emperor will soon give an answer. He thinks that *M. de Aversperg* is to be recalled. I am told there is a Courier passed thorough *France* for *Vienna*, and that the King of *Spain* was returned to *Madrid*. But they could not tell what measures would be taken. They talk there, as if the Arch-Duke would be declared Successor to the King of *Spain*. The *Spanish* Ambassador here has not yet any Orders. I have none of your Lordship to acknowledge, and am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Berlin, June 13. 1700.

I Believe I have already had the honour to inform your Excellency of the News we had here, of the march of the Troops of *Lunenburg* towards *Holstein*; that *Mr. Busb* was sent to go and work at a Peace, and that, at the same time, Orders were given to thirteen Squadrons, and eleven Battalions, to hold themselves ready to march. They are to quit their Quarters on the 18th of this Month, in order to go to the Frontiers of the Dutchy of *Zell*, where they are to encamp along the *Elbe* near *Lintzen*; and the Officer, who is to mark out their Camp, sets out to-morrow. The Lieutenant-General *Brandt* is to command them, and he will have under him the Major-Generals *Wreck* and *Arnheim*. I send here annexed a List of those Troops. We are

are assured, that this Camp will be augmented to Twelve Thousand Men; and Orders have therefore been sent yesterday to other Troops, that are further off from the Rendezvous than the first mentioned, to get themselves in order to follow these very soon.

Mr. *Obdam* has by this Post received a Copy of the Treaty of the Partition of *Spain*, and he has Orders from the States-General, his Masters, to concert with M. *Desalleurs* on the manner, in which they shall communicate it to the Elector.

The King has ordered me to follow the Elector into *Prussia*, but that Journey is not fixed; and some do even say, that it will not go forward. My Lord *Montrose* is here. I carried him yesterday to a Pleasure-house of the Elector's, where he had the honour to sup with her. I am, &c.

PLANTAMOUR.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, June 14. 1700.

I know your Excellency will be curious at this time, for which reason I am desirous to do myself the honour of writing to you, as frequently as is possible, tho' I am perpetually galloping between the Camp and this Place.

I do not find either the *Dane* or *Holsteiner* is disposed to accept the *French* Mediation with the Exclusion of the Emperor, and *France* does not seem inclined to join itself to any other. So that Incident has only served to perplex things more than ever. I have yet no Orders from His Majesty, one way or other upon that point. The *French* Ambassador has been with the Guarand Princes at *Pinnenberg*, and left a Project for the Cessation of Arms, which was communicated to us yesterday, and at the same time a Counter-project framed by way of answer, with different Conditions; probably neither of them will be accepted, since the *Danish* Army has passed the *Stoer* last Saturday, and is come to *Elmesborn*, within two Hours of the *Swedes* and *Lunenburghers*. Any little Accident is capable of engaging such animated Parties: but I will hope they will be wiser than to come to a decisive Battle, and that we may yet see them treat again at least, if not clap up a Peace. The late Ligue concerning the *Spanish* Succession, makes a rare noise in the World. If the Emperor be pleased, it is no great matter what others say or do. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. STANYAN.

S I R,

Lisbon, June 15. 1700.

WE are likely to have a more busy Scene of Affairs than has been usual; for the last day of *May* there arrived a Courier, in eleven Days from *Versailles*, to the *French* Ambassador, which is an extraordinary Diligence. The day after his Arrival the Ambassador desired a secret Audience of the King, which being granted, he remained an hour in private with him, no body being in the Room but the King and himself; during which, he shewed him the Treaty in *French*, that was signed by the Earls of *Portland* and *Jersey*, Count *Tallard*, Count *Briord*, and eight *Dutch* Plenipotentiaries, for the dividing the *Spanish* Monarchy between the Arch-Duke and the Dauphin, if the King of *Spain* should die without any Children. After he had shewed the Treaty, and explained the Contents of it, he made a Speech to invite him into it, setting out his Master's great Kindness shewed to the King of *Portugal* on this occasion, in giving him so sudden notice of what concerned so nearly the Interest of this Kingdom. The Ambassador received no answer from the King at his Audience, so he dispatched back the Courier, to give his Master an account that he had obey'd his Orders; and four Days after he

sent one of his Servants post, with the Answer he received from the Duke of *Cadaval*, his Commissary: which was, that this being a business of great Consequence, it required some time to consider of it; and that in the mean time, the King returned his most Christian Majesty thanks for this particular demonstration of his kindness, and assured him that nobody could desire more earnestly than He, whatsoever was for the Good and Peace of Christendom.

By this Answer it seems probable, that the King of *Portugal* will not take any Resolution of being comprehended in the Treaty, until he sees what the Emperor does; and that in order to it, he will wait for Count *Wallenstein*, who has been some time at *Madrid*, and is expected here in few days, the King's Barges being already gone to wait for him on the other side of the River. I am, &c.

PAUL METHUEN.

To Monsieur DE TORCY.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, June 16. 1700.

AT my return, I found the inclosed Letter for Monf. *d'Hervuert* in *Switzerland*, and as you was so good as to tell me, that you would take care of it, I take the liberty of sending it to you. I pray you to write to Monf. *de Puisieux*, to deliver it as soon as he shall receive it. It would be right for those two Ministers to confer together, in order to act in concert in this Affair. I fancy that Monf. *de Tallard* will have sent you word of what has been told him about a Suspension of Arms which *France* might propose in the North; and as we are not sure that this will not hurt the Guarantees of the Treaty of *Altena*, and by consequence put the two Crowns into different Interests; to obviate that Inconvenience, it were much to be wished that his most Christian Majesty would continue to act in concert with the King my Master, in order to procure that Peace. I shall have the honour of discoursing with you farther on this Subject the next Week. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY:

My Lord,

Paris, June 16. 1700.

I Did not receive your Lordship's of *May* the 30th, with the Orders for Monf. *d'Hervuert*, till I returned from *Versailles*. Monf. *de Torcy* spoke to me of it, and I have settled it with him. As for Sir *Lambert Blackwell*, I shall wait your further directions. I find the *French* design very soon to communicate the Treaty in all parts, as Monf. *de Torcy* says, since *England* thinks there is no occasion of deferring it, especially in those parts of *Germany* where the King has no Ministers: but where he has, it is necessary they should all act at the same time. The *French* intend and think it convenient to do it to the Prince of *Hesse-Darmstadt* and the Duke of *Saxe-Gotha*, who were forgot: As for the Electors of *Hanover* and *Bavaria*, they leave that to us, the Elector of *Hanover* not being yet owned as such by this Court. The *French* Minister at *Mantua* is to have orders to communicate it there, and at *Parma*, &c. And they have given their Order for *Turin*. The Duke of *Lorain* has not yet signed, tho' he pretends he will. He has called a Council of twelve Persons, since which he has desired many Explanations from this Court, to what concerns his own Country, that so they may have the same Privileges when under *France*, &c. Some are allowed: but he desires also not to be a Guarantee of the Treaty, which Desire is of such a nature,

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that it cannot be agreed to. We shall soon find whether all this is not to gain time, and to see what the Emperor will do.

I am told that one *Watkins*, who formerly belonged to my Lord *Castlemain*, is gone for *England*, with *Gautier* the late King's Perriwig-maker: the likeliest place to find him, is at *Pawlet's* in the *Haymarket*.

I hope your Lordship has received mine of the 2d of *June*, by Mr. *Adams*. I had inclosed in it an Answer to a Letter I had received. Mr. *Stanyan* has taken his leave.

The *Venetian* Ambassador has had an Audience of the King. It was only to compliment, and thank him for communicating the Treaty to the Republick. The Republick had ordered their Ambassador at *Rome* to visit the *French* Cardinals, which will put an end to the disputes between Signor *Erizzo*, and the Cardinal *d'Estrees*.

Captain *How*, one of the Assassins, and his Son, go on Friday next for *St. Vallery*. The Son designs for *London*, and the Father will stay behind for some time, as is said; but it may be that he is for *England* also. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, June 19. 1700.

I Acquainted your Lordship in my last, that one *Watkins* and *Gautier* were gone for *England*, and I have been since told that it may be of use to take them up. They are to be found, either at *Gautier's* Son's in the *Pall-mall*, or in the *Haymarket*. I shall let you know as soon as I can what their business is there. *Rotier*, formerly concerned in the Mint, is gone to imbarck at *St. Vallery*. He is to be heard of at Sir *H. Johnston's* Brother's. One *Bagnoll*, *Macdonald* and *Baily* are also gone for *England*. I have not heard any thing of *Grace*, whether he is come, or how you are satisfied with him. His Wife presses to go to him, and desires I would give her some Money. I will do it, in case your Lordship approves of her coming.

I have obeyed your Orders concerning *Monf. Meyercroon*. He still fears the King has so assisted the *Swedes* and the Duke of *Holstein*, by sending the Fleet, &c. that it may not be in his power now to bring them to reasonable Terms. He tells me, that *Monsieur Spanheim* has orders to acquaint this Court, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* is surprized at the *Lunenburgers* advancing so far into *Holstein*, that he has sent *Monf. Bush* to *Hamburg* with full Instructions to bring matters to an Accommodation, if possible; and that he has ordered some of his Forces to march towards *Lunenburg*. I have wrote to *Monf. de Torcy*, who is now at *Marly*, what you told me in your's of the 30th of *May*, in relation to the Suspension of Arms, and that I shall explain myself to him farther on Thursday next, that it would be necessary *England* and *France* should agree on methods to procure a Peace in the North, &c. I hear the Duke of *Holstein* does decline the Mediation of *France*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, June 19. 1700.

UNDERSTANDING that it would not be unacceptable to your Excellency to know what measures the Emperor takes in relation to the Treaty newly concluded with *France*, I could not but rejoice at an occasion of doing your Lordship any pleasure, and take the liberty to acquaint you, that the Emperor has not hitherto taken any Resolution touching the Treaty. All that has been declared is, that the Emperor, for Reasons very well known, thought himself obliged to communicate with *Spain*, which is the

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Party most concerned in his Opinion, and that afterwards he would return an Answer; which perhaps we may be forced to wait for till toward the end of the Terms allow'd him. In the mean time, your Excellency will easily judge the Agreements to be very unwelcome to this Court. Some of the Ministers don't hide their high dislike of it. But nevertheless, tho' they do not explain themselves, I believe it is past doubt that the Emperor will at length enter into it. The necessity of it is very clear, and will be often repeated to them.

This Court concerns itself in the Northern Affairs no further than good Offices extend, which have hitherto proved very weak and ineffectual. I am, &c.

R. SUTTON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Pinnenberg, June 21. 1700.

I Return my Acknowledgments for your Excellency's last favour of the 11th instant. From the Camp, where I frequently am in this conjuncture, Count *Chamilly* came along with me yesterday, and I have assisted him on this side, so that he is gone with a reasonable Project of Amnestice to the Court of *Denmark*, and I hope he will succeed, tho' your Excellency can scarce believe how lofty the *Danish* Language is still. God knows how poorly 'tis founded! If we can fix this Point of a Cessation of Arms, the principal matter will immediately be treated; and, as your Excellency rightly judges, the Duke of *Holstein* may have a fair opportunity of being as well settled as his situation can permit. The Elector of *Brandenburg* gives us most trouble at present, being resolved to hover over the Duke of *Zell's* Country in favour of *Denmark*. If *France* be sincere in concerting these matters with us, (as is pretended) it ought to endeavour to keep the *Brandenburgher* at home, or at least to threaten him a little for this march, which is the only cause of the *Danes* being stiff even to the last moment. A Transport into *Pomerania*, or a Motion towards the Dutchy of *Cleves*, will soon dash all the fine fancies of the Court of *Berlin*, with its vain Ideas of Greatness. I don't burden your Excellency with unnecessary Papers; but when any thing is once confirmed as it ought to be, I shall transmit it to you. Count *Chamilly* will scarce be here again till Friday with the *Danish* Resolution. The Armies are in their old Posts near each other.

I have sent some Packets to Sir *George Rook*, presuming him at *Gottenburg*, tho' Mr. *Gregg's* intelligence was wrong. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

P. S. *Wolfenbuttle* joins his small Forces with the *Brandenburgher*.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, June 23. 1700.

THE Chancellor of *Montbelliard* does often sollicite me, and I have again represented the Case to *Monf. de Torcy*. I must confess there is something extraordinary in the Proceedings of the *French*, the Troops I formerly mentioned being actually now in the Country, where they have taken, by force, possession of the Churches, put some of the Ministers in prison, and done what generally may be expected when they come to establish their Religion. They say here, that the Prince of *Montbelliard* may soon have the Troops recalled, provided he consents to let the Priests there continue the Exercise of their Religion, which would be yielding up the whole Point in question, to *France*. When I shall have seen *Monf. de Torcy* to-morrow, I hope I shall be able to give your Lordship a better Account.

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It is certain there is one Mrs. *Goodwin* now at *London*, who was concerned in all the Affair with *Goodman* and *Ingram*. She came over with them, and has of late passed for *Ingram's* Wife. It is thought she may be heard of at Mr. *Evans's* a Hair-merchant in the *Old-Baily*. If she could be taken, she can give an Account of *Obryan*.

The Duke of *Schomberg* has carried his Cause in the Parliament against his Brother in *Germany*, who pretended to have a Right to two Thirds, but the Whole is adjudged to the former.

The Affair of Mons. *de la Forest* and Mons. *Scheus* is agreed. They are to have near a hundred thousand Crowns. I always told their Sollicitors this was the best way. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, June 24. 1700.

I Presume on your Goodness to pardon the Omission of writing last Post. It was the Day of my first Audience, the Celebrating of which lasted till late at Night.

Here is a perfect good Understanding betwixt the *French* Ambassador, the Count *de Briort*, and me. I dispatched two days ago by his Courier, Copies of the late Treaty about the *Spanish* Succession, to our Ministers at *Hamburg*, *Copenhagen*, *Sweden*, and *Berlin*, to be communicated to those Princes, with Instructions to endeavour to persuade them to approve and enter into the Guarantee for executing it. I am told your Excellency has done the same to Mr. *Methuen* in *Portugal*.

The *Muscovite* Ambassador assures me, by a Letter written in the Czar's own hand, beginning *Myn Heer*, and signed *Peter*, being all the *Dutch* he remembers, that he is sending three Ambassadors to *Sweden* to swear the Peace and Friendship with that King; that one shall constantly reside, to entertain the good Correspondence, which shall not depend on his having Peace or War with the *Porte*, as is maliciously reported, but his Intentions are to maintain it so firmly, that nothing shall be able to alter it: And this he has assured the Pensionary and the *Swedish* Ambassador of, and declared the Substance also to me.

The Post is not come in from the North, nor have I any News from Sir *George Rook* since he left this Coast. Sir *Paul Ricaut* is arrived here this Night from *Hamburg*, and expects a Yacht to carry him to *England*. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, June 25. 1700.

I Have had the favour of your's of the 11th and 14th, and I can now acquaint you, that whatever Expectations the *Danes* might have from this Court, it is so agreed that they will act in concert with *England*, &c. As to the difficulty which you mention, That the Duke of *Holstein* was not inclined to accept of the Mediation of *France*; that will now be made easy to him, since *France* does consent that *England* and *Holland* should be joined to them: and they have already spoke to the *Danish* Minister here to write to his Master, that it is what they wish the King of *Denmark* may accept of. This certainly cannot but please the *Swedes*, as well as the Duke of *Holstein*; and I think it is the only way to accommodate the Affairs in the North, in case the Measures already taken do not succeed. You will have Orders, I suppose, to make this proposal to the King of *Denmark*. Whether the Emperor or the Elector of *Brandenburg* are to be joined, I cannot tell. We are in great expectation to hear whether the Elector's Troops are marched into the Country

Country of *Lunenburg*. If so, then what we had reason to believe, will be plain, *viz.* that he has been all along in another Interest, whilst his Minister here assures us of the contrary.

I did believe the Treaty concerning *Spain* would cause great discourse. You will have Orders, if you have them not already, to communicate it to the Courts of *Zell* and *Hanover*, &c. I hope it will at last come to a good Conclusion. I desire you will continue to let me know how matters go on your side, and I shall not fail to do the same from hence. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, June 25. 1700.

I Congratulate you upon your publick Audiences being over. I judge by myself, for I take it to be the worst part of the Embassy here, tho' it is what must be done.

As to the Affairs of the North; we are here impatient to hear what has passed since the two Armies have been so near. In case the measures already taken do not succeed, that which this Court approves of will make it easy; for they are willing *England* and *Holland* should be joint Mediators with them. This will prevent any misunderstanding there might have been between the two Crowns; and I suppose the *Swedes* and Duke of *Holstein* cannot but be pleased with it. The *Danish* Minister here has been spoke to, and this Court has intimated to him, that they hope the King his Master will agree to it. I am apt to think that at last you will have the honour and trouble of it; and that the Treaty between them will be concluded at the *Hague*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, June 26. 1700.

THE Court being at *Marly*, *Monf. de Torcy* came on *Thursday* last to *Paris*, and in the Conference I had with him, he told me, That the Duke of *Lorain* had himself signed the Treaty with *Monf. de Caliere*, and at the same time had wrote to the *French* King, that, notwithstanding he did not insist on the several Explanations, and the Proposals he had made, yet he hoped they would be granted him. The chief Point, and which he desires most, is, that he may not be look'd upon as a Guarantee, since he had neither Troops, nor Money to maintain it, in case of a War. Besides, to act against the Emperor, he thought, was what, in gratitude, he ought not to do. It was not proper to allow him this, as I take it, for very good reasons: since it would have been an Example to others to make the same difficulty, and especially to those who have not the same Advantage by this Treaty. Yet it is explain'd to him, that it is not expected he shall give any other Assistance than a free passage thorough his Country, in the same manner as he is already obliged to do by the Treaty of *Ryswick*. He also consents to send some full Power to sign it at the *Hague*, as I understand the King desires. Most of the other things he desires, and of which I think I formerly acquainted you, relate to his own Country when it shall be subject to *France*, and most of this is granted him. It was well he did not stay for an Answer from *Vienna*; for, as I perceive, there is but little inclination there to agree to the Treaty, as it is now: for I take it, you will see them play another sort of Game. *Monf. de Zinzendorf's* Courier is returned, and he told me, that his Orders were to assure me, that his Master was as much inclined as any body to preserve the Peace of *Europe*: but as the Treaty was communicated in *Spain*, he could not come to any Resolution till he had heard from thence. I did perceive there

there was something more, and especially since I saw him so impatient to see *Monf. de Torcy*, which he did press very much; and he saw him on Tuesday at a House near *Marly*, where he told him he had Orders from the Emperor to offer the Dauphin, instead of what he was to have in *Italy*, the *West-Indies*. *Monf. de Torcy* said, (as he tells me, and I cannot but think this Court will act sincerely) that the Proposition was of such a nature, that he did not think it proper to acquaint the King with it, neither could he imagine that *England* and *Holland* could agree to it. To which *Monf. de Zinzendorf* answered, That *France* was able to maintain it by their Fleet and Troops, if they would accept of it. When he found this would not do, then he proposed, as from himself, that *France* should have *Sardaigne* and *Luxemburg*, in lieu of *Lorraine*, and the Emperor *Milan*. This was as extraordinary as the other. At last he said, it was impossible for the Emperor to agree to the ninth Article, viz. That the Kingdom of *Spain* shall never descend to any one who shall be at the same time Emperor, or King of *France*, &c. After some further Arguments that pass'd, *Monf. de Torcy* asked, Whether the Emperor would sign the Treaty in case this Article was suppress'd. He could not say any thing positively to that. I cannot tell but *France* would be easy enough in this Alteration: but I take it to be against the Interest of *Europe* to have it so. When *Monf. de Torcy* acquainted me with this, I told him that what he had proposed, was, in my opinion, of great consequence, and very unlikely to be agreed to by whoever might approve of the Treaty. *Spain* might then possibly be join'd to the Empire, &c. He did own it would have its difficulties; and said, the *French* King would not hearken to any Proposal but by common consent. I must take notice to your Lordship, that *Monsieur de Villars* was only acquainted with the first Proposition, viz. That of the *Indies*; and even that was not communicated to *Mr. Hop*. I have not taken any notice of all this matter to *Monf. de Zinzendorf*, nor do I intend it; tho' *Monf. de Torcy* said I might as to the first Proposal, he having declared he made it by order. *Monf. de Torcy* then told me, that the Treaty had been communicated to the King of *Portugal*, who talked of it as if he could never consent to it; and accordingly the *French* Minister there, sent away on the 4th instant the Courier. When the King perceived this, he soon changed his mind, and so another was dispatched, by whom he agrees intirely to the Treaty on the following Conditions.

1. If the Emperor does not consent within the time limited, that then he may be one in the naming of another Prince.
2. That he may have two places yielded to him, that formerly belonged to *Portugal*; one was *Alcantara*, but I do not remember the other.
3. That if he be attacked by reason of this Treaty, those who are concerned in it, shall be obliged to assist him.

Monf. de Torcy did seem think it was worth granting him these Terms, since it was the only way to engage him heartily in it; and as for the first Article, there would be still three against one. This same Courier brought Letters from *Madrid* with this Account, That the Council that had been assembled upon the notification of the Treaty, where the King was not present, had agreed, that the best advice they could give the King, was, that he should declare a Prince of *France* for his Successor; the Count *de Aguilar* being the only one that did not consent to it: that the Queen had press'd the King to disapprove of this Resolution, which he would not do; and that as yet he had not declared himself. The Count *de Harrach* had discoursed with several of them, and especially with the Cardinal *Portocarrero*, and others whom he thought in the Emperor's Interest; and they all answered, that it was the only good Advice they could give their King.

This matter is not yet publick here. *Monf. de Torcy* thinks it proper that our Envoy in *Switzerland* should have orders to speak privately to several of the Chief of them, and say, it is expected they do give leave to any Troops to pass their Country in case of a War, this King intending to give the same

same Instructions to M. *de Puyseux*, and order him to say that they were to observe the same method our King had done, and not to mention this matter in publick.

I took notice to M. *de Torcy* of what you mentioned concerning the North, and this Court, to prevent any Difference that might happen, does agree that *England* and *Holland* may be joint Mediators with them, and that the Treaty may be carried on at the *Hague*. I have since spoke to Mr. *Meyer-croon*, who said he had wrote yesterday to the King his Master, and that it was very true that *France* wished that the King of *Denmark* would agree to it in this manner; and if so, he supposed Orders would be sent not to act against him. I only said, that the King desired nothing more than to continue a good Correspondence with the King of *Denmark*, and had no other Intention than to procure a Peace in those Parts, which was the Interest of all *Europe*.

I must acquaint your Lordship, that the Chancellor of *Montbelliard* design'd to set out this Day for *England*, to lay the whole Case of his Prince before His Majesty. He pressed me to desire an Audience of this King, which I thought improper, since Mons. *de Torcy* has assured me that the Troops are recalled, and that we shall soon have an Answer to the matter in question. The Chancellor desired my Advice about the going, which I could not say any thing to, but that I would write, and that I could not have an Answer in less than ten Days. He then desired I would continue to press for a Determination, which, if favourable, would make it needless to trouble the King, but he very much feared it. It is certain, the *French* have committed great Violences, and have made most People do Homage to the *French* King, and imprisoned several. One of the Ministers is carried to *Besancon*, where they intend to try him for High-Treason. I hope whatever Orders you may send me in this Case, they may be full, that so I may see how far the King will engage himself, and also in what manner.

I am told that Major *Holmes*, who is in the Proclamation, is certainly gone either for *England* or *Scotland*. One *Powel*, alias *Nosworthy*, is gone for *England*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

— Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Berlin, June 27. 1700.

YOUR Excellency knows that this Court has been accused of partiality in favour of *Denmark*. It was even apprehended that they would come to violent Resolutions against the Houses of *Hanover* and *Zell*. And that Apprehension was not without foundation, whilst those Princes had been threatened, and that the *Danes* did not dissemble it: but if we are to believe the positive Assurances that are given us, the Affairs are much changed here, and they seem firmly resolved not to flatter *Denmark* any longer, but to work seriously at a Peace. The Reflection, which was made on the Inconveniences to which they would expose themselves, if they took the contrary part of the Guarantees, has produced this good Effect, for which they have yesterday sent Mr. *Busb*, his Electoral Highness's Minister at *Hamburg*, the Proposition here annexed, which seems very reasonable, and he was ordered to concert upon this with Mr. *Cresset* and Mr. *Cranenbourg*. They have also writ a Letter to the King of *Denmark*, by which they deprive him of all hopes of Succours from this Court, and they exhort him to accept the mentioned Proposition, and to lend his helping hand to a just and equitable Accommodation. As a Consequence of a good Disposition of this Court, in a Conference which Mr. *Obdam* had yesterday with Mr. *Fuks* and Mr. *Smettau* about renewing the Treaty betwixt his Electoral Highness and the States-General,

General, all the Articles, on which there were yet any Difficulty, were adjusted in a moment, and they will very soon entirely conclude that Treaty.

The Marquis *de la Forest*, the Lieutenant-General *Flemming*, and Mr. *Marchal*, all three in the Service of the King of *Poland*, arrived here yesterday. They are in all likelihood to press the Elector on the Junction of his Troops to the four *Saxon* Regiments, which his *Polish* Majesty has lately given to the King of *Denmark*, and to the Troops of the other Allies of his *Danish* Majesty, to act in their favour: but these Gentlemen will be very much surprised to see the Measures so much changed at this Court. M. *de la Forest* is not to command these four *Saxon* Regiments, as it was said, of which he is very glad, by reason of the Obligations he owes to the Duke of *Zell*, against whom they are to be employed; but he is to go and serve in *Livonia*. It is said that Mr. *Flemming* is to go to *France* from the King of *Poland*, but that is not very certain.

I inclose the News which came yesterday by the *Prussian* Post, and am, &c.

PLANTAMOUR.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Pinnenberg, June 28. 1700.

THE Management of our new Mediator being worth observing, I have endeavoured to inform my self of it as carefully as is possible, because all our Labour will be in vain, if the *French* cannot leave their old way of tricking. That which appears odd and unusual is, that Count *Chamilly* has written a Letter to Sir *George Rook*, with whom I am persuaded he can have nothing to do, but probably to oblige the Court of *Denmark*. He has pretended to suspend the Operations of our Squadron, when the time is so precious. Since he has been discovered, he owns his writing the said Letter, and proffers me a Copy of it: but I have sent for one from Sir *George Rook*, and, with submission to your Excellency's better Judgment, I think it no more than reasonable to expostulate a little with the *French* Court upon this Conduct of their Ambassador; which, in a word, is very partial in favour of *Denmark*, and may traverse the Measures taken by the King our Master, and the States, for bringing things to a speedy Peace. Probably this Proceeding may be purely personal, and not according to Orders from his Court: but I must confess my Weakness of Faith in what concerns *French* Sincerity.

The *Dutch* Troops are now join'd to the Guarantee Forces in *Holstein*. The Superiority is great on their side, however the senseless Pride of *Denmark* keeps up a swaggering Language, to no other purpose but to make their Condition daily worse.

The Guarantees propose to treat immediately of the principal Affair, and to conclude a Peace, since the *Danes* have march'd up to their very Beards, and at the same time offered to treat, in case the Guarantees repass the *Elbe*. The Armies lie within a *Dutch* Mile of each other at present. I dined yesterday with the Duke of *Wirtemberg* in the *Danish* Camp, whither I went on purpose to expose to him (who is a worthy Prince) the Necessity of Peace, for preserving *Denmark*, since the *Swedes* are increasing in Strength every day, and unless the *Dane* strikes up quickly, we shall not be long Masters, so as to hold their Adversary. I wish they may be wise, and that suddenly; I am sure they are mad, if they do not. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, June 30. 1700.

I Do not write by this Post to my Lord *Jersey*, because Mr. *Stanyan* intends to set out on Friday next, and by him I will let his Lordship know what occurs.

I find by yours of the 13th instant O. S. that there are not to be any Changes. By this I see the Town follows its old Custom of placing and displacing several. As for my own particular, I shall never like *France* so well, as not to wish to be at home. You know the *French* very well, and I believe you find the Diversions at *Hampton-Court*, where I hear you are often, more to your Satisfaction than any thing here.

The News we have at present is, that the Pope has made a Promotion for the Crowns, viz. the Archbishop of *Paris* (who was yesterday at *Versailles* to thank the King) for *France*; the Bishop of *Passaw* for the Emperor; and *Borgia*, a Canon of *Toledo*, for *Spain*. There are still two *in petto*. We have sometimes reports here of the King's being indisposed: but I hope it is not true. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, July 1. 1700.

AFTER returning my most humble Thanks for your Excellency's obliging Congratulation for the trouble of my Audience being well over, I have little new to write concerning the Affairs of the North. We did not approve here the Project of having *England* and this State received by *Denmark* into the Mediation, believing we may more probably incline the King of *Denmark* to a peaceable Disposition by being Guarantees, than by being Mediators: and upon the Pensionary's, Mr. *Lelyenrood's*, and my representing our Reasons to the *French* Ambassador Mr. *Briort*, he was satisfied, and promised to write to his Master to dissuade it, and to M. *de Chamilly* to forbear making the Proposal 'till new Orders. The *Danish* Fleet lies in the Mouth of the *Sound* to intercept us from joining with the *Swedes*, but they will sure consider of it before they attack us, tho' they are stronger than our Squadron. We have no News yet of Sir *George Rook*, but Commissions are dispatched by the Duke of *Holstein* to him, Mons. *Allemonde*, and the *Swedish* Admiral to act in his Name. So we only lend our Ships to the Duke, in virtue of the Guaranty. I shall have a Copy of them by next Post, and will send it your Excellency, as being a Case something extraordinary. Sir *George Rook* scrupled the accepting it without His Majesty's Leave, which he now has. The two Armies are within half a League of each other, the *Danes* making the advance upon notice that two Thousand Horse of the Guarantees were set out to receive the *Dutch* Troops, but could take no advantage of their Absence, and the *Dutch* must have joined the Army three Days ago. What is most considerable is, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* seems to have changed his Measures. His Forces have stopp'd their March, and he has sent to *Denmark* to withdraw his Troops out of *Holstein*, and refer matters to be agreed by Treaty. My Lord *Portland* arrived here last Night; and Sir *Paul Ricault*, who was here from *Hamburg*, is returned in the same Yacht for *England*. The Captain told me all the Yachts have Orders to be ready at home the 4th of *July* O. S. to attend His Majesty hither; and when He is here, it is not impossible that, as your Excellency says, the Treaty of the Northern Differences may be removed to this Place. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, July 2. 1700.

I Just now received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of *June 25*, and that you may plainly see whereabouts we are with our Affairs for His Majesty's Service, I communicate to your Excellency what I writ this day to *Whitehall*. I am continually in Journeys and troublesome Conferences, which hinder me from such Correspondence, as Men in quiet Posts may easily maintain:

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but your Excellency may be assured that I will not leave you in the dark, as to any essential Point, and as for the trifling current News 'tis not worth writing. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

*Copy of what Mr. CRESSET sent that Day to Mr. Secretary
VERNON.*

THE *French* Ambassador, instead of backing the Proposals given him here for a short Armistice and speedy Conclusion of a Peace, brought back a Resolution from the Court of *Denmark*, of not treating 'till the *Swedes* and *Lunenburghers* left *Holstein*, as the *Dane* was at the same time disposed to leave the Duke of *Gottorp's* Country. The Duke of *Wirtemberg* marched by way of *Gasconade* up to the face of the Enemy, tho' really not above twelve Thousand strong against twenty Thousand effective. This seems to give us a sample of what Fruit we are to expect from this new Mediation, which by flattering *Denmark* spoils all our Proceedings, and only serves hitherto to entangle us with greater Difficulties. There may be something personal in Count *Chamilly*, as to his partiality in favour of *Denmark*, which is manifest to every body: but I confess, with submission, I think his Orders are to be suspected, and I must see good Proofs of the *French* Sincerity before I can believe it. I am sure *France* is not sorry to have this part of the World troubled, let it declare what it pleases; and I presume 'tis our undoubted Interest to finish all War, and Occasion of War, as far as practicable, in these Northern Countries. I will not pretend to penetrate into Mysteries, but Count *Chamilly* talking to me frequently of a Cessation of Arms to be prolonged 'till *Michaelmas*, methinks demonstrates the *French* are in no haste for a Peace; but by spinning out things into length, and tiring of all Parties, would become at last Masters of the whole Business.

The King our Master will easily discern if this Management be only for gaining so much time, as is necessary, to know the Emperor's Mind concerning the *Spanish* Succession; and if His Majesty passes into *Holland*, the surest and shortest way for concluding all things, will be to project (at least the essential Points of a Treaty) there, and to be assured of the Concurrence of *France* thereunto: so that the *French* Ministers Hands being tied up in these Courts, can only, in conjunction with the States Minister and my self, declare and impose just Laws upon both Parties for ending the War, which I am afraid will hardly be effected by any other method: for whilst *France* traverses our Measures, and the Emperor continues to do no good, we cannot expect with reason for a fair Issue.

I cannot foretell whether the King of *Sweden's* coming in person into *Germany* will make any Alteration in Affairs, either for better or worse: but I found yesterday, at the Camp, in discourse with the Duke of *Holstein*, that his *Swedish* Majesty is resolved to pass the Sea, and to see what is doing here. The first fair Wind brings him over.

The *Danish* Army, being alarmed by the too near Neighbourhood of the Enemy, which began to disquiet them, decamped yesterday Morning between three and four of the clock, making accordingly a Retreat. Some little Skirmishes passed in the Rear.

The Ministers of *Brandenburg*, *Munster*, and *Hesse-Cassel* are gone together to *Rendsbourg* to the King of *Denmark*, to preach Peace, as they tell us. The Appearance of a *Swedish* Transport into *Pomerania* has converted the Court of *Berlin* on a sudden; but any change in Affairs would make all that fine Dealing run back again, the Faith of *Brandenburg* being turned into a Proverb.

I am now to acknowledge your Honour's Letter of May 28, which I received the Day before yesterday from Mr. *Stanhope* by a *French* Courier. Tho' your Honour's Letter contains Orders only for my notifying the Treaty relating

relating to the *Spanish* Succession to the House of *Lunenburg*; yet since I understand from Mr. *Stanhope*, that he had concerted at the *Hague* for my joining in performing the same thing at the Court of *Denmark*, I judged it my Duty to go along with Mr. *Cranenberg* to-morrow to *Rendsbourg*, where we shall find Count *Chamilly*, and execute together what is commanded. Count *Chamilly* is a very deserving Person, and a Man of great Parts; but I confess I am jealous of a little Shuffling, and therefore thought it for His Majesty's Service, without any loss of time, to go rather myself immediately, than to give the *French* Ambassador occasion to act as he pleases, in sending at leisure for Mr. *Greg*, and making use of the *Dutch* Resident instead of Mr. *Cranenberg*.

To Sir LAMBERT BLACKWELL.

S I R,

Paris, July 3. 1700.

I Have received the inclosed from my Lord *Jersey*, and have taken this way of sending it you by a Courier, who brings Orders of the same nature to the *French* Envoy. I suppose you will find you are to act jointly, and to take your Measures together. It is in relation to the late Treaty with *France*, concerning the Succession of *Spain*. I cannot tell how acceptable it will be to the Great Duke. If you send your Letters to me, I will take care to send them safe to *England* or *Holland*, wherever the King may be; and I should be glad to know what sort of Answer you will have. I do think the Great Duke will not declare himself 'till he knows what the Emperor will do. Mr. *Stanyan* is gone for *England*, but I shall take care that you be informed of what passes here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 24. 1700. O. S.

I Think I acquainted your Lordship in my last, that the Duke of *Shrewsbury* would resign the Lord Chamberlain's Place.

The next Day his Grace sent up the Key to Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, to be delivered to the King, who gave it this Morning to my Lord *Jersey*; and I believe his Lordship has by this time given up the Seals, for he sent for them this Evening. Who is to be his Successor in the Secretary of State's Place, is not yet known. The vogue of the Town places it between my Lord *Lexington* and Mr. *Hill*, and some are of opinion that they will not be disposed of 'till His Majesty's Return from *Holland*, of which I may be able to write with more Certainty by next Post. My Lord *Romney* is made Groom of the Stole, which has been long expected. My Lord *Sunderland* was sent for to Town to wait upon the King before he goes away, but he has excused it, being, as they say, unwilling that what is done should be imputed to his Advice. The King holds His Resolution to go for *Holland* about the 4th of next Month, and all the Men of War and Yachts are to be ready by that time.

The Parliament of *Scotland* is adjourned to the 4th of next Month, and if the News that comes from *Jamaica* be true, that the *Scotch* have quitted *Darien* upon a Capitulation with the *Spaniards*, they in *Scotland* may perhaps begin to think that it is to no purpose to push that matter further. I am, &c.

R. YARD.

To

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, July 7. 1700.

I Suppose the Packet was gone before yours of the 20th of June came to Whitehall, because it came by itself, and I did not receive it, 'till I was returned from Versailles; so that I could not discourse with Mons. de Torcy concerning those matters. He told me however, as to what you write in relation to the ninth Article, that he had mentioned it to M. de Zinzendorf, who has promised to send immediately a Courier to Vienna, for he had no positive Orders to say that this was the only Point the Emperor insisted on. M. Zinzendorf also took notice of it to me, and says he will do what lies in his power. I must tell your Lordship, that he does what he can to be well here, and endeavours to procure merit to himself both with the Emperor and this Court.

Mr. Cresset acquainted me, that M. de Chamilly had wrote to Sir George Rook, and seems to complain of it; and I took notice of it to M. de Torcy, and said I could not tell but it was done by Order, and by our King's Consent. I found he had been informed of it, and assured me he had no such Orders, but on the contrary not to put any thing in writing concerning these Affairs, and owned he was pressed to it by the King of Denmark, that it was of little Consequence, for Sir George Rook would nevertheless obey his own Orders, that Care should be taken for the future to prevent the like Proceedings, &c.

I have obtained the Liberty of one Vial a Frenchman, who has lived long at Orange, and was put in Prison at Avignon; but for the Sieur de Rodon, I cannot see any hopes that they will give him leave to come into France. I know what he has done, but he has a great many Enemies, and some considerable ones.

I will prevent the Chancellor of Montbelliard's coming, tho' matters there go very ill, and the Troops are still there.

I desire your Lordship's Directions now the King is going to Loo, with whom I must correspond there, for I believe your Lordship will stay in England. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, July 8. 1700.

THERE are no Letters from Spain since my last, but we expect them every day. The Chancellor of Montbelliard, who seemed lately resolved to go for England, is not yet gone, and I believe I have prevented it for some time. Mons. de Torcy promises me an Answer very soon; but I much doubt of it, and am persuaded if ever we have it, that this Court will declare they have a Right to the Sovereignty of those Places, as Fiefs of the County of Burgundy: Tho', if Words can make any thing plain, by the Treaty of Ryswick they have no sort of Pretension. It is certain, that what they do there, is in order to serve those of Neuchattel in the same manner. I fear they find it convenient. I have done all I can, and represented that those Violences were never committed, even in the War, nor did they offer then to establish their Religion. As to those Places being mentioned in the List of Re-union, they pretend it was a mistake, and they ought not to be looked upon as such. They have the Right that Spain formerly had, and even then France supported the Prince of Montbelliard against Spain, as unjust in them to pretend to it. I shall send your Lordship a short State of the Case, and also the Answer I have to that Affair of Lanoy and Threadway, &c.

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The *Venetian* Ambassador often takes occasion to tell me, that their Ambassador for *England* has Orders to make what haste he can, and some time since he made me a Compliment from the Republick. In short, all this is done in hopes the King would name a Person to reside at *Venice*, and that I would do what I can in order to it; for they are a suspicious People, and apprehensive that the King has no thoughts of sending one. I believe they would be satisfied, if one was named with the Character of Envoy, tho' he did not go 'till their Ambassador was in *England*. This I submit to your Lordship's Thought, and think it proper to acquaint you with it, since he spoke so often to me upon that Subject.

Monf. *de Torcy* has asked me, if the King approved of the manner, in which they have communicated the Treaty. I said I had no reason to think otherwise. This may be occasioned by what Monf. *de Zinzendorf* may have said to him, for he has as good as told me, that in *England* it was not liked that the Treaty should be made so publick. Monf. *de Zinzendorf* is of opinion, that the King of *Spain* will never declare for a Prince of *France*, but rather for the Arch-Duke. This we shall now soon see. The *Spanish* Ambassador has as yet received no Orders, and carries himself in the same manner as he did before the Treaty.

As to the original Papers, which Monf. *Vrybergen* thought this Court had consented should be delivered to the Intendant for the King's Affairs in *Burgundy*; Monf. *de Torcy* tells me, there are but two or three old Records that relate to our King, and all the others are Homages, &c. which ought to be kept by the Sovereign: That there were some which concerned the Pretensions of Madame *Desanguin*, which were the only Security that she had; and then he told me, that our King did promise to finish that Affair, but now he did not hear any thing of it. I told him I had never been concerned in that matter, nor had I any Orders about it. May be M. *de Tallard* will mention it to you. I have wrote to Mr. *Richard* to send me a List of what Papers there are in *la Chambre des Comptes* that relate to the King, and as soon as I have that, I will see what can be done. There is already an Order that he shall have what Copies he desires, which I know will be expensive. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, July 9. 1700.

I Think it highly for the King our Master's Service, as well as for your Excellency's own Curiosity, to have you thoroughly informed how things stand here, that we may not be the Bubbles of our new Friends and Allies. The inclosed Papers will clear all things, and I am sorry the great hurry of Business will not permit me to enlarge at present. I return my Acknowledgments for your Excellency's Favour of the 2d instant, and wishing you all Prosperity, I am with great Respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

Copy of a Letter to Mr. Secretary VERNON, that was annexed to the foregoing Letter.

I Shall be ready to execute whatever comes to me from the *Hague*, when concerted according to his Majesty's Order, and transmitted to me by Mr. *Stanhope*. The States Minister has yet no Orders for communicating the Treaty, relating to the *Spanish* Succession, either at *Wolfenbittel*, or to the Duke of *Holstein*; but I have desired him to write for them this Post.

Your Honour sees herein inclosed, both a Copy of my Memorial given in a Conference at *Rendsbourg*, with the Answer to it, signed by the Triumvirate of the *Danish* Court. I had a pretty long Audience of the King upon

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that Subject; and His Majesty was pleased to express himself in Terms of Approbation, as to the Design of preserving the general Peace of *Europe*: but I easily perceived an advantageous Peace for *Denmark*, at present is meant by this shew of Complaisance. I took occasion to move His Majesty upon the *Holstein* Affairs, turning all Points of our late Declaration into as soft Language as I could, without altering the Sense. To all which the King really answered like a Prince, That he desired Peace, but would venture all, rather than not have it honourable.

I found the Court so stiff the first day I came to it, that I was resolved to dispatch my Secretary to Sir *George Rook*, to give him an account in Person how things stood; for there is no trusting to Letters by the way of *Denmark*, and Expresses are very apt to be robb'd on that Road; but on a sudden, upon some News from the *Sound*, matters grew more gentle: And in another Conference, the inclosed Resolution was given to the *French* Ambassador, which abates a little of the usual Loftiness of Style. To-morrow morning Count *Chamilly* goes with this Proposition to the Guarantees Camp, now at *Oldefloe*, and Mr. *Cranenberg* and myself shall likewise go thither. After all, I must declare my thoughts, as a true Servant to the King our Royal Master, that either Count *Chamilly* is personally gained by the *Danish* Court, or else the *French* have some Aim different from ours, which is a speedy Peace; in order to which, the *French* Ambassador ought to act with vigour and sincerity, and not to flatter the *Dane* to his ruin, and to the continuance of War in the North. I can see through the cunning of the subtle Gentleman, that he menages something (I know not what) for the King of *Poland's* Interest; and it is certain, that if the *Danes* escape the Operations of this Campaign, and can but reach Winter, for treating and intriguing, there will be fine work to begin again with *Poles*, *Muscovites*, and *Saxons*, not to name *Brandenburghers*, more false and troublesome than all others.

On the Road from *Rendsbourg* a Courier from *Berlin* met us with terrible Letters from that Court, thundering against Fortifications at *Ratzebourg*, &c. That Court can never continue twenty-four hours in the same humour. The Marquis de *Bonac*, *French* Envoy at *Wolfenbuttel*, is now here, and in a few days we shall notify the *Spanish* Matters in form to the Duke of *Zell*.

I have Letters from Sir *George Rook* this day, of *June 21*, O. S. wherein I perceive the *Dane* bullies in respect to the passage of the *Sound*. I can scarce believe they will actually oppose it, after all: but we must have patience still for a little time. His Majesty's Presence on this side of the Water, will (I hope) set all things in a right way towards Peace in these parts. I am, &c.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, July 9. 1700.

WHAT you mentioned in your's of the 29th of *June*, concerning Monsieur de *Chamilly*, I took notice of to the Ministers here, whom I found he had acquainted with it, and they do assure me he had no such Orders: but on the contrary, was not to put any thing in writing, as from himself, in relation to the Affairs of the North. It is certain he was pressed to it by the King of *Denmark*; but the like proceedings will be prevented for the future; besides that Sir *George Rook* will obey his own Orders, notwithstanding what Monf. de *Chamilly* could write. I told you some time since, that this Court was willing *England* and *Holland* should be joint Mediators with them: but I have reason to think that this Proposal will not be made yet to the Court of *Denmark*. I am told there is lately a Proposal come from that Court, which seems more reasonable, tho' there is still the defect of not fixing the chief Matter in relation to the Duke of *Holstein's* own Country. I should be glad you would send me sometimes the

the Propositions that are made of each side, that so I might be able to answer as it happens to be spoke of here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

SIR,

Paris, July 9. 1700.

I Have your's of the first instant, and I do think the King will first see what can be done in the Affairs of the North, by acting in the manner he has hitherto done, before he offers his Mediation with *France*. I cannot find that they have as yet made any great progress at *Hamburg*. As soon as the King is in *Holland*, you will see some other measures will be taken which will be more effectual. I shall be glad to have a Copy of those Commissions you mention. I suppose that was done at the desire of the Duke of *Holstein*, and that Sir *George Rook* had not those Orders before he went; because he would not accept it till he had the King's leave. Here is nothing worth your notice. We are in expectation to know the Resolution of the Emperor. His Minister has sent another Courier to *Vienna*, and at his return we may probably judge of the Success. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. SUTTON.

SIR,

Paris, July 9. 1700.

I Am obliged to you for your letting me know what thoughts they have where you are concerning the Treaty, and I find you write much the same with what they have here from thence. I cannot but think the Emperor will judge so well of his own Interest as to accept it at last, especially when he sees *Spain* is inclined to settle the whole Succession on a Prince of *France*, which I suppose you have heard of. All the Council, except the Count *d'Agui-lar*, were of opinion, that the best Advice they could give their King at this juncture of Affairs, was for him to declare the Duke of *Anjou* his Successor. I cannot tell but this may make some Alterations at your Court, and bring them to a speedy Resolution. I am told that Count *Caunitz* is ill, and that this makes the Affairs not go so well as otherwise they would. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. PRIOR.

SIR,

Paris, July 10. 1700.

I Was very sorry to hear my Lord *Jersey* had quitted the Office, and much more so because you also leave it. I suppose you have long foreseen this, and cannot but have taken care of yourself, being upon the place; for you often said Men were forgot when abroad. The hopes you give that I am to correspond with Mr. *Vernon*, makes me more easy than I should else have been.

The Ambassador of *Savoy* was with me, to let me know that the Duke his Master had ordered *Monf. de la Tour*, who was formerly his Envoy in *England*, to return thither with the same Character. This will cause a great discourse, because he was his chief Minister. But the Reason why he comes, is not hard to guess. I was in hopes to have heard something concerning Sir, &c. whose Letter I sent lately to *England*. As soon as I hear from my Lord *Jersey*, I shall not fail to congratulate with him, I am. &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, July 10. 1700.

I Beg your Excellency's Acceptance of the inclosed Advices, which do not leave me much to add. I am glad to see that your Court moves so earnestly in the accommodating the Affairs of the North. The Emperor, as far as I can observe, will contribute as much to it as good Offices will go. It were to be wished he would do more: but his Affairs are really in so ill an order, that it does not appear easy for him to make more vigorous steps, tho' he had never so much a mind to it.

As to the Treaty of Regulation of the *Spanish* Succession, I have only to acquaint your Lordship, that this Court will not return any positive Answer yet. They have received newly a Courier from *Spain*, but will not discover what dispatches he has brought, and conceal their Intentions as much as they can till the return of their own Courier from *Madrid*; alledging, they can ground nothing upon the Advices they have hitherto received thence. However, it may be presumed they will accept the Treaty, tho' it be very displeasing to them. They take no visible measures to prevent the execution of it; from whence one may reasonably conclude, they see the necessity of admitting it; and one cannot wonder at their menacing the Affections of the *Spaniards*. I am, &c.

R. SUTTON.

P. S. I ought not to conceal from your Excellency, that it appears pretty plainly, that this Court would absolutely reject the Treaty, if they had any hopes of bettering themselves: but esteeming the business irrevocably concluded on our side, and not knowing how to remedy it, they are likely to turn their thoughts more upon the ways of preserving what is allotted them, than upon catching at the Shadow, and leaving the Substance; especially if the *Spaniards* will comply therewith.

Copy of a Paper annexed to the foregoing Letter.

Vienna, July 10. 1700.

WHEN Monf. *Alesfeld*, the *Danish* Envoy, was lately at the Court of *Zell*, having without success endeavoured to force the Duke and the Elector of *Hanover* into a Neutrality in the business of *Holstein*, he declared at length, that if any of their Troops passed the *Elbe* to assist the Duke of *Holstein*, his Master would look on the said Princes as his Enemies, and attack them. This is what the *Lunenburghers* alledge for the grounds of a demand they have made, by way of Preliminary, of including in the Treaty between his *Danish* Majesty and the Duke of *Holstein*, a Security of their States from Attacks upon any pretence whatever, which they say they only desire in general Terms. The *Danes* and the Princes Opponents of the ninth Electorate, have taken the matter, as if the said Electorate was intended to be comprised in the Treaty, and thereupon the Deputies of the Princes Opponents, at present here, have protested aloud against that Proceeding, and declared in the name of the said Princes, that if it be insisted or meant, that the ninth Electorate be even indirectly included in the Agreement of the differences of *Holstein*, the said Princes find themselves engaged to oppose it; and in order thereto, to join their Forces with those of the King of *Denmark*. The Elector of *Brandenburg* has made Declarations and Protestations by his Resident at this Court, that he has no other intention in the assembling his Troops, than to concur with the other Guarantees to accommodate the matters in dispute, which is thought to be his real desire. Yet one may surely judge him to be unwilling to see things carried on too far against *Denmark*, which, as he acknowledges, he cannot suffer to be oppressed. This Court professes itself desirous to join with the other Guarantees of the Treaty of *Altena*,
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and contribute as much as is possible, by their good Offices, to the accomplishment of the good Work now in hand; alledging, that it is only to qualify themselves the better for it, that they affect a certain Impartiality and Indifference; and since the Declaration of the Elector of *Brandenburg*, they judge it less necessary to cause their Troops to make any motion upon the Frontiers: for which forbearance, they also give several other Reasons; as their distance, and the scarcity and dearth of Provisions in those parts, of which the States of *Bohemia* and *Silesia* have certainly complained, and do continually withstand the conjunction of the Troops.

The Treaty of Regulation of the *Spanish* Succession is a matter of so near a concern to this Court, that they will not return a decisive Answer to the Invitation that has been made them to enter into it, till they have fully communicated with *Spain* concerning it; esteeming it very necessary to manage his Catholick Majesty and the *Spaniards* in so nice a business, wherein they are so deeply interested, it being especially their interest to keep as great a share as they can in the Affections of that People.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 14. 1700.

I Do own I was somewhat uneasy at the news that my Lord *Jersy* was no longer Secretary, lest I should have been obliged to have corresponded with any but yourself, which now I shall do with great pleasure. I have not often had that honour yet. I am sensible of your exactness, and as I shall from time to time let you hear what passes, so on the least intimation that you would have an enquiry made in any particular matter, I will endeavour to give you the best Accounts I can. Mr. *Stanyan* will be able to let you know how he left matters, and there is little Alteration since. They had early notice at *St. Germain's* of the *Scots* quitting *Darien*, and they believe it, which does disappoint all their hopes at present; and the good Understanding they find there is betwixt Us and this Court, makes them wholly rely on Providence, that something may happen at last to their advantage. They still please themselves with hopes that the Treaty concerning the Succession of *Spain* will make work next Session: but in this, it is to be hoped, they will also be deceived.

I am told that the place where the *Jacobites* have often meetings at *London*, is at Mr. *Ingleton's*, at the *Three Crowns*, in *Holborn*, near the *Bear-Tavern*, opposite to *Southampton-Square*. His Brother is a Priest, and Sub-preceptor to the pretended Prince of *Wales*.

I shall take care, as soon as I hear that the King is at *Loo*, to correspond with Mr. *Blathwayt*. This Court has been for some time at *Marly*. Mons. *de Torcy* comes to *Paris* to-morrow. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, July 16. 1700.

I Have had the favour of your's of the 2d instant, and I was in hopes the Affairs of the North were nearer a conclusion than I find they are. I am satisfied that the settling the principal Points must be in another place, and I have some reason to think that is a doing. Nevertheless it would be well if you could procure an Armistice, lest the two Armies, lying so near together, should at last be engaged; which might make it more difficult, as the success might happen. The Envoy of *Denmark* has shewn to this Court a new Proposal, but they still persist that the *Swedes* shall first leave *Holstein*. I cannot find but they act sincerely here. It may be they are rather inclined to the *Danes*. I mean, they would not seem to oblige them to such conditions, tho' they would be glad matters were accommodated, and it is

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their Interest as well as ours to have it so, in hopes those Princes would enter into the Treaty concerning the Succession of *Spain*. I cannot find but *Monf. de Chamilly* has only orders to act as Mediator, by doing all the good Offices on both sides, and it is certain that this Court has assur'd the King of *Denmark* that he must not expect any other assistance from hence. It is natural to think that any Minister will endeavour to be acceptable at the Court where he is, which may be the Reason he is to be suspected as partial. The King of *Sweden*'s coming into *Holstein*, makes different conjectures, and it is said he brings 12000 Men with him. I cannot see what occasion there is at present for them, unless they do intend to attack the King of *Denmark*'s Army, which is much inferior already to that of *Holstein*. The Elector of *Brandenburg* complains, that contrary to a Treaty, of which *England* is Guarantee, the *Lunenburghers* are fortifying *Ratzburg*. If that be so, he must change his measures again. You are the best judge of all these matters, and I shall be glad to know your thoughts. They say also here, that the ninth Electorate is mingled in these Affairs, and there this Court will be against us.

The last Letters from *Spain* say they are much alarm'd, and that the King has wrote to the Pope, to desire his Advice and Counsel in so nice a conjuncture of Affairs. That the Counsellors of his Majesty are extremely for a Prince of *France* for the whole Succession.

I suppose I shall soon hear what answer the King of *Denmark* gave you. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, July 17. 1700.

I Have just now received the inclosed from Mr. *Cresset*, and I do find that Mr. *Meyercroon* has represented this matter otherwise to his Court, and different from what I expressed to him; which shews how desirous they are to take hold of any thing they think may be for their advantage. Your Lordship remembers that my Orders were, before and after *France* had offered their Mediation to *Denmark*, to represent to *Monf. de Torcy* that it would be necessary that this Court would act in concert with the King my Master, in composing these Affairs in the North, lest it should so happen that they might at last be engaged in two different Interests. As to the Mediation of *England* and *Holland* join'd with *France*, the first notice I had of it, was from *Monf. de Torcy*, who said it was agreed on. I told him then, that I knew nothing of it; and he told me he had mentioned it to Mr. *Meyercroon*, and told me that the *French* King wished that the King of *Denmark* would agree to it. I do remember that Mr. *Meyercroon* did then say to me, that he never knew of mediating Armies, and he hoped Orders would be sent to the Fleet not to act *par la voye de fait*. I told him then, that I could not say any thing to that matter: but I had reason to think the King my Master desired nothing more than to continue a good correspondence with the King of *Denmark*, and to procure a Peace, which was the interest of all. This I acquainted your Lordship with in my Letter of *June 26*. Your Lordship will see (as I take it) by this Paper, that it looks as if I should propose the Mediation, and if it was accepted, then Orders were to be sent to the Fleet, which I was far from doing. I always took it for granted, that it would be concerted in *Holland*, and that *Monf. de Chamilly* was to propose it. I perceive that matter did not go on. I heard from Mr. *Stanhope* that Orders were sent to him not to propose it till further orders. So they were willing to take this method. I thought it proper to send your Lordship this account, that you may do me the justice to acquaint the King with it: for tho' it may have no ill consequence, yet I should be sorry to act further than

than my Orders directed. I do intend to speak to Mr. *Meyercroon*, and if this Court has any hand in it, I shall begin to think, as Mr. *Cresset* does, this Proposition of the joint Mediation came intirely from Mons. *de Torcy*; and whenever he or Mr. *Meyercroon* spoke to me in relation to the Orders our Fleet had, I always answer'd I did not know it.

The last time I saw Mons. *de Torcy*, he told me, (which he said was forgot) that it would be proper I should have Orders to take notice of the Treaty concerning the Succession of *Spain*, to those *Italian* Ministers that come from Courts where our King has none, and to desire their Masters to enter into the Treaty, as *France* has already done, as a means to secure the Peace of *Europe*. I said, I had no Orders, but that I would write about it. As for *Modena*, I thought it was not proper for me to take notice of, which he agreed in; so that there are *Savoy*, *Venice*, *Mantua* and *Genoa*. I intend to speak again to Mons. *de Torcy*, and have a further Explanation.

I send you a Letter from Mons. *d'Hervuert*, who has communicated the Treaty. Mons. *de Torcy* tells me, that it is thought that the *Swiss* Cantons will hardly enter into the Guaranty, but they may consent to have Troops raised in their Country, in case of a War. On that occasion, he said also, that he had sent to the *French* Ambassador in *Portugal*, a Copy of the Treaty to be signed by that King in the manner it was agreed-on in *England*. He tells me that the Duke of *Savoy* answered with great Professions, but in general terms, when the Treaty was communicated to him. That the *French* Ambassador there had now Orders to let him know that the King his Master had reason to hope he might have had a more positive Answer from him, especially since there was a discourse as if he had made a Treaty with the Emperor; which, as he did not believe, so it was necessary such discourses should be discouraged, and that the World should see the contrary. That as for Mons. *de Tour* his going for *England*, the *French* King was glad that he took all the ways to cultivate the Friendship of the King of *England*. This will certainly put him on some difficulties how to explain himself.

The Prince *de Ligny* is here, and has been with me. He thought I had Orders to speak about his Affair to this Court, as he said Lord *Portland* and your Lordship had. He has Orders for Mons. *Heemskerk*, and to the *Spanish* Ambassador here. I do remember you took notice of this matter when I left *England*. It is against Madame *d'Espinoy*. I should be sorry to act against her: but I must obey what Orders the King sends me, which I hope to have from yourself.

I saw by a Letter from *Milan*, that the Prince of *Vaudemont* is confirmed in his Government for three years, and as a farther sense the King of *Spain* has of his Fidelity, he has given the Golden Fleece to his Son. This was very surprizing to all that wished him ill.

I have the honour of yours of the first of *July*, and I shall obey your Orders. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Bern, July 7. 1700.

I Return you my most humble thanks for your sending my Letters to my Lord *Jersey*. You have seen by that of the 14th, that Mr. *de Puyfieux* is determined to call a Diet together at *Soleur*, to persuade the *Swiss*, if it be possible, to enter into the Guaranty which we desire; which will not be very difficult to execute. According to what is wrote to me by Mr. *Valkenier* in his last Letter, I take it for granted that he is arrived this day (at farthest) at *Baden*. He will find the Ambassador of *France* there still, with whom he may

may confer, and make, before the Separation of the Diet, the same Proposition which we have made, he and I.

The *Grisons* have not yet the Communication of the Treaty from me, because Mr. de *Puyfieux* has desired me to suspend it, 'till he has informed the King his Master of my Orders on that Subject, and asked some from him, the Court of *France* being a long while since dissatisfied with the Conduct of the *Grisons* towards him. As my Orders are to act (on this Occasion) in Concert with that Minister, I have began it. He will be back at *Soleurne* at the end of this Week. I am, &c.

D'HERVAERT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Copy of my Letter to Mr. Secretary VERNON.

Malmö, July 7, 1700.

MY last to your Honour was of the 3d instant. On the 4th O. S. I went to wait on Sir *George Rook*, and at my Arrival at *Landscroone* found ours and the *Dutch* Squadron coming to anchor before that place, the foremost of our Ships not being above four or five *English* Miles from the *Danes*. I found that all the Artifices of the *Danes* had been employed in vain, and that the Admirals of both Squadrons were fully resolved to proceed in the execution of their Orders, as occasion should offer; and the inferior Officers and others were very impatient at the Slowness of the *Swedes* Motion: but last Night they failed, and this Morning we see them actually joined, and the Wind being come more favourable for them to bear down upon the *Danes*, it is expected here they will do it to-day; tho' the *Danish* Fleet being already retired towards *Copenhagen*, and the Flats thereabouts dangerous, it will probably require more time to come at them. One of the *Swedish* Fire-ships was run aground last Night, and still lays so before this place; but in the combined Fleets there are eight more, which, together with ours and the *Dutch* Bomb-Vessels, must do the greatest Execution. God Almighty grant the *Danes* may yet prevent it, by a speedy Compliance with what is just and reasonable.

I have seen a Letter from the King of *Spain* to this King, giving him an account of the Treaty made about the Succession of his Dominions; but only adding, that it is a Matter of great Importance, and that he (the King of *Spain*) is deliberating upon it. They intend, I think, to answer that the King of *Sweden* will do so too.

My Lord,

I beg your Excellency's pardon, that instead of a Letter directly to yourself, I put you off with the Copy above, but it will be as instructive as if the other way; and that I hope will be accepted. Your Excellency will have heard, that some Discourse of yours has given the *Danes* a handle to accept of His Majesty's and the States Mediation before it was offered, tho' four Years ago they rejected it with great Firmness. They have used all means to pass it upon Sir *George Rook* as a Reason to stop the Execution of his Orders: but he knows so well how to obey, and is too wise to be misled.

This Court has not yet made any shew of the side it intends to take, in reference to the *Spanish* Succession, being too much taken up with its own Affairs to think of any other. I am, &c.

J. ROBINSON.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, July 19, 1700.

I Do not doubt but Mr. *Cresset* has sent you the Paper, whereby the King of *Denmark* accepts our King's and the States Mediation: but as it relates to me, for fear he has not sent it, I have inclosed it. I must own I was very much

much surprised to see it, and I have spoke to Mr. *Meyercroon*, who does justify me. I never made him such a Proposal. It was M. *de Torcy*, the Secretary of State here, that did propose the joint Mediation with *France*, and *France* wished it. It is true, that Mr. *Meyercroon* did afterwards mention it to me, whereupon we had several Arguments, as our own Thoughts, and no otherwise; this shews you that, since M. *de Chamilly* had no Orders as yet to propose it to the King of *Denmark*, the *Danes* were resolved to take any Handle or Pretence to engage the King as Mediator. I have wrote fully on this account to Mr. *Blathwayt*, who will lay it before the King, and I desire you to discourse with Mr. *Blathwayt*, who I suppose is with you. As far as I can see, it will have no ill Consequence: yet as I was far from acting as this Paper supposes, so it is proper the King should know the truth. You will also have heard how willing the King of *Denmark* is to enter into the Treaty concerning the Succession of *Spain*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 19. 1700.

SINCE mine to my Lord *Jersey*, I have spoke to Mr. *Meyercroon*, who does own, that the Proposition of the joint Mediation with *France* was made to him by Mons. *de Torcy*, and that this Court was desirous that the King of *Denmark* would agree to it, and that he first spoke to me about it; so far was I off making any Proposal to him, and that it is very true, that we had several Arguments thereupon concerning our Fleet: but whatever passed, was as our own thoughts, and not that I declared any thing as by Order of the King my Master. I owned to him I was a little surprised to find that the Court of *Denmark*, upon his relation, took it, as if I had proposed the King my Master's Mediation, when I had no such Orders. He said, it only shewed the great Desire the King of *Denmark* had to accommodate Matters; and also the Confidence he had in our King's Mediation.

I must desire you will lay this Matter before the King, and I am confident, tho' I have not yet seen Mons. *de Torcy*, he will own that the Proposal came from him. However, they would seem to understand it otherwise in *Denmark*: but it is no wonder, as they did demand and agree to the Mediation of *France*, before it was proposed, so they have acted in this, giving it another turn. I cannot see any ill Consequence in this Matter, since I have Orders to declare to M. *de Torcy*, that the King our Master does consent to the joint Mediation with *France*, provided it does not interfere with the Guaranty he is already engaged in: but it may be, it was not proper as yet to propose it to the King of *Denmark*. It is certain, that the Affairs of *Denmark* are in so ill a Condition, that they were resolved to take any Pretence or Handle to oblige our King, and engage him as a Mediator.

Mr. *Fitz-James* is a going to marry a great Fortune Mademoiselle *Lusan*. Her Father is first Gentleman of the Prince of *Conde*. It has been carried on by the Duke of *Maine*, and it is thought Madame *de Maintenon* has brought it about. King *James* intends to give him the Garter. I have inclosed the Paper Mr. *Cresset* sent me, tho' I suppose you have it already. I am impatient to know the King's Thoughts on this whole Matter, which if you will let me know, you will oblige, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

From the Allies Camp near *Oldsto*, July 19. 1700.

YOUR Excellency's Favour of the 9th instant found me here last Post, where I have been labouring with the *French* and *Dutch* Envoys Messrs. *de Bonac* and *Cranenberg* to bring our troublesome Affair into some

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way of Negotiation. The *Danes* have at length consented to treat with *Sweden* and the Courts of *Zell* and *Hanover*. An Armistice of eight Days is proposed, for assembling the Ministers at *Hambourg* to receive the *Postulata* on all sides; and next Post I shall be able to acquaint your Excellency with something fixed to this effect, one way or other. I have Horse-loads of useless Protocols, and impracticable Projects, which are so little worth sending to you, that I can scarce afford them place in my Study: but your Excellency may rest assured, that in all essential Matters you shall be rightly informed of what passes. If there be Sincerity in the Court where your Excellency resides, things may easily be calmed; otherwise we shall be much worse intangled than ever by this new Mediation. The King of *Poland* may come in to treat, if he pleases, and I presume it is high time for him so to do. Count *Alefeld* is stopt in his career with the *Saxon* Succours, which are now like to devour the Bishop of *Hildesheim*, not being able to force an Entrance into the Duke of *Zell's* Country.

By my last Letter from Sir *George Rook*, the *Swedish* Fleet was in sight of the *Danes*, as well as the other Squadrons; but we were not yet joined, tho' in a possibility of joining the *Swedes* suddenly, unless it is judged more convenient to keep the present Station. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

Copy of a Relation sent to Lord MANCHESTER by Mr. ROBINSON.

Elfsborg, July 19. 1700.

IN my last Letter of the 1st, I gave you an account, that the *Swedes* being resolved not to pass through the Channel on this side of *Saltholm*, seemed to stray by it only 'till they could have time to set Buoys in their own Channel (on the other side of the newly mentioned Island) which is commonly called the *Flintrennen*, or the *Rocky Passage*. Accordingly as soon as the Buoys were set, the whole *Swedish* Fleet, excepting only six or seven of the very biggest Ships, quitted the *Danish* Coast the 1st in the Evening, and passed through the *Flintrennen* the next Morning, to the number of Twenty-nine Ships of the Line of Battle. The great *Swedish* Ships, newly mentioned, set sail for *Carelskroon* the 3rd in the Forenoon, after all the rest had passed the *Flintrennen*, to whom they left behind not only their Flags, but likewise the best of their Men; so that, tho' the *Swedish* Fleet is now much less than before, as to the Ships it consists of, yet in proportion it is much better manned.

On Sunday sevensnight the 11th instant N. S. Admiral *Gedde*, and Mr. *Olaus Hansen* were on board the *English* and *Dutch* Admirals, to impart the News to them of the King of *Denmark's* having accepted the *English* and *Dutch* Mediation, in conjunction with the *French*; and to press them to a Neutrality upon that score, in order to which Admiral *Guldenlew* made further and very urgent Instances two Days after, by a Letter to Admiral *Rook*, upon occasion of the *Swedish* Fleet's passing the *Flintrennen*.

The Treaties between *Sweden* and *Denmark* forbid the passing of the *Sound*, or *Belt*, by either Party, with above five Men of War at a time, without three Weeks previous Notification to the other: but they make no mention at all of passing through the Grounds, which therefore the *Danish* Fleet never scruples to do without Notification. So that *Guldenlew's* Letter did not complain of the *Swedish* Fleet's passing the *Flintrennen* as a Breach of the Treaties, but only as contrary to the ancient Customs of these Seas, which he alledged (tho' upon what grounds I cannot tell) not to allow the use of that Passage to any Ships whatsoever, unless bound for *Malmo*, or coming from it. Upon this Pretence the *Danish* would, in all likelihood, have taken the first Opportunity of a favourable Wind to attack the *Swedish* Fleet, if they could have persuaded Sir *George Rook* to promise to be neutral in that Case, which he plainly and positively refused. *Guldenlew* in his discourse the other Day with me, shew'd a great deal of Concern at Sir *George Rook's* advancing towards the

Swedish

Swedish Fleet, and owning his being in Readiness to join them, which, he said, was very far from being Mediator-like. To this I answered, that it had been expressly notified to the King of *Denmark*, almost six Weeks ago, by Mr. *Cresset*, and Mr. *Cranenberg*, as also afterwards to his High Excellency (for this is the Title given to all the *Guldenlews*) by Admiral *Rook*, at his first Arrival near the *Sound*, that His Majesty and the States had sent these Squadrons to the *Baltick* Sea, for preserving the Peace in these Parts, and for the maintaining of the Treaty of *Altena*, to which they were obliged, as Guarantees; that Admiral *Rook's* Orders and Instructions were agreeable to this Declaration; and his High Excellency may easily judge, that his Proceedings must be so too, 'till he gets new Orders, and 'till then he could act upon no other foot than the said Guaranty. That the *Swedish* Envoy, Monf. *Lifsenheim*, had been sent to the King of *Denmark* at the same time with Mr. *Cresset*, and Mr. *Cranenberg*, to notify, in like manner, that the *Swedish* Fleet was going to Sea for the very same purpose above mentioned. That after these Declarations, it would not appear strange to his High Excellency, if our Squadrons were in a readiness to join the *Swedish* Fleet, and acted their part in order thereunto. That Admiral *Rook* could not govern himself by Mr. *Meyercroon's* Letters to the King of *Denmark*, about my Lord *Manchester's* offering of His Majesty's Mediation, 'till he had some account of this matter, either from my Lord *Manchester* himself, or from some other of His Majesty's Ministers. That neither Admiral *Rook*, nor Mr. *Cresset*, nor I, had received any such account hitherto, tho' I had newly the honour of a Letter from my Lord *Manchester* of a very late date.

What Monf. *de Guldenlew* replied to all this, was only, That he could not blame Admiral *Rook* for following his Orders, but that it could not well be supposed that Mr. *Meyercroon* would write such a Story to the King his Master, unless it had been true. That thereupon his Majesty of *Denmark* had formally declared his accepting of the said Mediation to the *English* and *Dutch* Ministers, as well as to the *French* Ambassador. That he doubted not, but that Admiral *Rook* had an account of this from Mr. *Cresset*, and therefore might, at least, delay the joining of the *Swedish* Fleet, 'till he could receive an authentick Account from the *English* Ministers themselves, of the Business of His Majesty of *Great-Britain's* Mediation. That since Admiral *Rook* had so long delayed the joining of the *Swedish* Fleet, he might still defer it a little longer, and why should he just chuse this time for it, upon the News of the Offer and Acceptance of the *English* and *Dutch* Mediation, in Conjunction with the *French*?

To these things I answered, That Admiral *Rook* had expressly declared to his High Excellency, by Colonel *Hundorff*, some days before the said News arrived, that he designed to join the *Swedish* Fleet with the first Opportunity. That he would have joined it before now, if there had been the same Disposition of Circumstances for it. That now the Circumstances being as they are, his Orders obliged him to make the advances necessary on his part, in order to a Junction. That a bare Junction could not hurt the Mediation. That it was not his Intention to proceed any farther, unless the *Swedes* were attacked, 'till he had an Answer from *Holstein* to a Letter he had sent thither, immediately upon his High Excellency's imparting to him of the above-mentioned News. That His Majesty aimed at nothing else but Peace, and would be extremely pleased, if that could be obtained without coming to Extremities, and without any further loss of time. And that Admiral *Rook's* Intentions were altogether the same, and I doubted not but he would endeavour to prevent things from coming to Extremities here, as long as he could possibly, without too much loss of time, and consequently no *Voye de fait* was like to follow the said Junction (unless the *Swedes* came to be attacked) so long as there was any good Appearance of a sudden Accommodation of Affairs in *Holstein*, either by an Armistice, or by the final Conclusion of a Treaty; and in short, that *Sweden* and *Denmark* were not in War together, and the former

former acted not upon any other foot, in the present Affairs, than His Majesty and the States did: the joining of those Squadrons therefore to the *Swedish* Fleet could be no hindrance to their Mediation, in which the King of *Sweden* himself was capable of being joined with them, as well as in the Guaranty, and was at least as capable to be a Mediator in this Case as the King of *Poland*.

P. S. I am now certainly informed that the *Swedish* Fleet came down from *Malmo* Road the 17th, and joined Admiral *Rook* in the Evening.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 8. 1700.

I Have received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 14th. As to that part of it which was writ in Cypher, I am not yet apprised of it, since your Cypher is still in Mr. *Prior's* Hands, who went with my Lord *Jersey*, when he waited on the King to *Margate*, and I don't hear that they are come to town.

I beleive your Excellency will have heard, before this time, of His Majesty's being landed in *Holland*. We suppose he got thither on Saturday, but have not yet the News of it.

The *French* Ambassador staid a Day or two after him, but he embarked yesterday in the River. Before he went, I spoke to him about a Ship called the *William and Jane*, which was seized by the *French* trading to *Port Dally* or *Joally*, on the Coast of *Africa*, between the River *Senegal* and *Gambia*. I know your Excellency has solicited the Restitution of it, but without effect hitherto, it having been referred to the Commission of Trade. I inclose their Report, which has been laid before His Majesty, and by His Command I spoke to the *French* Ambassador, that he would procure Right to be done us. He has promised, that he would represent the Case as strongly as he could; how he will have performed it, your Excellency will best judge. I desired him to consider, that there is a Concern of seven Thousand Pound; that our trading on that Coast was never questioned but once before, two Ships being then seized by the *French*, but upon our Complaint they were both released, and full Satisfaction was given. I hope they are as well disposed to do us Justice now, and that the good Understanding between us may not only appear by the late Treaty, but by all other Acts of Friendship, and a mutual good Treatment of the Subjects on both sides. I hope the Count *de Tallard* does us that Right to let it be understood, with what Readiness all Dispatch is given to whatever he has to solicit, tho' it often happens to be for matters of small Consequence, and for Persons that will be forcing a Trade on our Coast with Salt, Brandy, and the like Merchandize, contrary to our known Laws. As often as there is any room to favour them, we do not fail to shew it.

There is another Act of Friendship, of a yet greater moment, which that Court may oblige us in, if they think fit; and that is, the bringing of the Affairs in the North to a speedy Determination, that we may see Peace restored there before Winter. The last Post gave us some Prospect that a Cessation of Arms would be agreed on. *Monf. Chamilly* was then going with the Proposal to the Princes of *Lunenbourg*; whether they have concluded any thing, I know not, but I told Count *Tallard* that I thought it was wholly in their hands, not only to make a Cessation, but to make a Peace, whenever they pleased; that if at his going over to *Holland* he had Orders to concert a Project with His Majesty and the States, and would resolve to support it, they would find no Opposition from any body else. He talked as if it was necessary to be thoroughly informed of the *Holstein* Affairs before such a Project could be agreed on. If he means by it, that it will take up time 'till

Winter

Winter to consider it, that Delay, I think, will be more a Gratification to *Denmark* than to us.

Letters are arrived this Day from *Edinburgh* of the 2d instant, which bring the Proclamation, that has been issued there, for adjourning the Parliament to the 13th of *August*. There was some talk, as if they would not submit to this Adjournment, and that the doing it by Proclamation was a novelty there, and therefore the Precedent ought not to be admitted; but more noise has been made of it here than upon the Place. I only hear that they intend to set a Petition again on foot for the Meeting of the Parliament to dispatch the Affairs before them, which no doubt will be complied with in a proper time, whether the Petition proceeds or not; those that propose to themselves any Advantages from the Ferment, that has appeared in that Kingdom, may find themselves disappointed.

I have had very little Discourse with Mr. *Stanyan*, and consequently have very imperfect Notions how matters stood at *Paris*, when he came away. I suppose we shall both be at more leisure during the King's Absence. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, July 22. 1700.

IT will be no News to your Excellency, that the King our Master arrived here the 17th instant in good Health. I will add therefore, that I saw His Majesty so this Day at Noon, and in very good Humour. He designs to leave us Monday or Tuesday next, to go and take his usual Diversions at *Loo*. The inclosed Paper is about Mr. *Robinson's* Letter to me, which he desired me to communicate to your Excellency with his most humble Respects. We have nothing since fresher from those Parts, but that Sir *George* and the *Dutch* were passed as far as the narrowest part of the *Sound*. That the *Swedish* Fleet was still without, towards the East end, and the *Danes* lay in the middle between them, two or three Leagues distant from each, having as yet had no Action that we hear of. The Land-Forces are also looking at one another, expecting an Armistice, of which there seems less Probability now than before: for the *Swedes* and *Lunenburghers* having been declared Enemies by *Denmark*, demand to be included in the Treaty, as well as the Duke of *Holstein*; which *Denmark* refuses, desiring to be at liberty to be revenged on them. Some mention also being made by the House of *Lunenburg*, of including the new Electorate, offends both *Denmark* and *Brandenburg*, as well as the Fortifications began at *Ratzbourg*. Notwithstanding which, I hope our Master's Wisdom will find Expedients for all these Difficulties, if your Court be sincere, and do not traverse Him, which *Monf. de Chamilly's* Proceedings in *Denmark* give some grounds to suspect. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 23. 1700.

I Have very little to acquaint you with this Post, only that *Monf. de la Tour* is here, and as soon as he has waited on this King, he intends for *Holland*. I have seen him, and by his discourse, I find he does not think to go into *England* when the King returns, tho' the *Savoy* Ambassador here told me that he was to reside there, and so he told this Court. It will depend much on the success in what he goes about; and I must tell you, that it occasions many conjectures here, especially since it is known that the Duke of *Savoy* has of late sent many Expresses to *Vienna*, which this Court does not like, and I have reasons to think it will press him to declare what his Intentions are, it being his misfortune to be so well known, that it will be hard for

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him to play the same Game over again. His Ambassador here is much dejected, and at the last Conference I had with *Monf. de Torcy*, he was seen to come from him in great disorder. It was easy to imagine that this was occasion'd by what I have mentioned to you.

Mr. Fitz-James, who is lately married, is to be made Duke of *France*. I suppose she is not willing to trust to his Dukedom in *England*. This King gives him a Pension of 20,000 Livres, and he is to have an Apartment and a Table from the Duke of *Maine*, both at *Versailles* and at *Paris*. All this is done by *Madam de Maintenon*, who is very fond of the young Lady. I hope to hear soon that the King is well in *Holland*. They have news at *St. Germain*s that he is much out of order. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, July 23. 1700.

I Had the favour of your's of the 9th instant, with several Papers. That where the King of *Denmark* accepts of our King's Mediation, as if I had propos'd it, did a little surprize me: but it shews they were glad of any pretence to engage the King as Mediator. I thought *Monf. de Chamilly* would have made the Proposal. This Court seems to be glad of it; for they pretend that they feared the King of *Denmark* would never have agreed to it; but I take it, there was but little danger, considering the posture of his Affairs. I hope to hear that a Cessation of Arms is agreed to, which I take must be the first step that can be made; and I cannot but think that the King of *Denmark* does now sincerely desire to accommodate matters, by his readiness to enter into the Treaty concerning *Spain*. You will soon have Orders to conclude that matter. It is certain that he hopes we shall be better inclined to serve him, by this his way of proceeding: I wish you may not find the others more hard to deal with. I shall be glad to hear what thoughts the Duke of *Zell*, &c. have of the late Treaty.

Monf. de la Tour is come from *Savoy*, and is going to the King in *Holland*. It does occasion great conjectures; but I am of opinion he will lose his labour. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, July 23. 1700.

COUNT *Chamilly* is not yet returned from the Court of *Denmark*, so that the Term fixed for an Armistice in the last Project being expired, and no Answer given, it is evident the *Danes* only seek Delays, which at length will prove fatal to them. It is reported here this Day, that the King of *Denmark* has left *Gluckstadt* on a sudden, and is probably gone for *Copenhagen*, before which Town the *English*, *Swedes*, and *Dutch* lie now at anchor, with Fifty-two good Men of War of the Line of Battle, whilst the *Danish* Fleet is retired into a corner, ill at ease, under the Cannon of the Citadel; so that it appears a Paradox to all the World, to see those Heroes still so averse from treating. Just as I am writing, I receive the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 16th instant, for which I return my Acknowledgements. I here inclose to your Excellency a Copy of Count *Chamilly*'s Letter, which will clear the Point to you, about mixing the ninth Electorate with these Affairs, tho' it is said, that Gentleman gave occasion for such a Report; your Excellency sees his Justification, which you will please to keep to yourself. There is no harm in being well with a Court, where a Minister resides, but he must not serve it to the prejudice of others, especially where Mediation is pretended: but there are reasons for all things good or bad.

bad. I see nothing sure of a Transport from *Sweden* at present, but dare swear a third part of the twelve Thousand will scarce ever appear. And as to the King of *Sweden's* coming himself in Person into *Germany*, it is yet uncertain. *Brandenburg* is so changeable, that there is no relying upon it any way, nor any Measures to be taken with such a Court. It is *Berlin* alone, by its Camp at *Leutzen*, that gave occasion to the Duke of *Zell* to palisade *Ratzbourg*, lest the Elector should take post there, as he threatned to do: but there is nothing there against any Treaty, nor is the present Retrenchment worth the name of a Fortification. The *Danes*, to serve *France* during the War, bombarded that Place, and the Duke of *Zell* generously sacrificed his just Resentment to the publick Good at that time. *France* remembers its Friends; and I don't see any good Reason for us to forget or neglect ours in time past, if we design to have any for the future. The Sincerity of *France* is yet unknown to me, tho' I have practised that Nation and People all my Life-time: but I am ready to submit to Demonstration, and when I see things in matter of Business I believe them.

Your Excellency will see by the *Lunenburg* News, that the *Saxons* are driven out of the Duke of *Zell's* Country. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

Extract of a Letter of Mons. the Count of CHAMILLY dated the 22d of July 1700, and wrote to Mr. CRESSET.

Translated out of French.

I Forefaw very well, Sir, that the time, which they gave us, was not sufficient. The day after my Arrival, the King of *Denmark* went in the Morning three Miles off, where he was expected, so that we could not speak about Business yesterday; this Day he is again gone, since five a-clock, to *Itshoe*, and perhaps much farther yet: it is doubtful whether he returns to-night; they have nevertheless promised me a decisive and favourable Answer by to-morrow Evening, or next Day in the Morning; but I fear much its coming too late to be accepted by the other side: and as I would not be reproached to have amused any body, I thought I must write this to you, immediately after the term which was given me, that so, Sir, you may let Mr. *Fabritius* know, that there is nothing done; that I shall nevertheless be in a Condition of bringing an Answer the Day after to-morrow, but I know not what it will contain, tho' they make me hope it will be agreeable to the Project which I brought with me. I believe however, Sir, that it will be convenient that you do not quit *Hamburg* 'till my return. I shall, with a great deal of pleasure, have the honour of seeing you there on Sunday next. I am, &c.

P. S. Have the Goodness to communicate this Letter to the Abbot *Bidal*, that you may join in softening the Minds of the contrary Party on this Delay; for which I can give no good Reasons, but the Voyages of the King, and the shortness of the time.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 24. 1700.

I Was in hopes not to have heard any more of the Ship *William and Jane*, since I cannot see any likelihood of Success, and whatever Count *Tallard* has promised, he will do it in such a manner that we cannot expect much good from it. Mr. *Stanyan* is acquainted with the whole matter, and I must also refer you to the Papers, which I sent to Lord *Jersey*, where you will see I have not been wanting to press it as far as it was possible. I should be glad nevertheless to have a Copy of Mons. *de Tallard's* Memorial of the 16th of Janu-

January last, wherein he owns the Right the *English* have to trade on that Coast, which they absolutely deny here. And as for the two Ships that were released, they never were brought into *France*, neither could we learn the Names of them. The *African* Company here is supported by the greatest Men at Court, and it is easy enough to find Arguments for a Case the *French* have ever disputed, and as yet it is not settled; and I am of opinion, that when they have not taken our Ships, the Reason always was, that they were too strong for them, as this very Ship was, had she not been surpris'd, very able to defend herself. I will see what effect *Monf. de Tallard's* writing will have, and I will continue to do what I can in it. I do remember that the last time I spoke of it, I shew'd *Monf. de Torcy* the ill Consequence that this might have on another occasion, since it would be a warning for our Ships to defend themselves; that what was our Case now, might be theirs another time. All the Answer he made me was, that if so, it would only be a Dispute between this Company and that of *England*, and could not engage the Crowns. I told him, I wish'd it did not, and that he would agree that all the ways should be taken to prevent it. To repeat the many Arguments we had upon that Subject, would be endless.

As to the Affairs of the North, I cannot see but this Court is as desirous as we to accommodate them, at least in outward Appearance they are so: besides I take it to be their Interest, since the King of *Denmark* is willing, to enter into the Treaty concerning the Succession of *Spain*. It may be, they would be glad to procure the best terms they can for *Denmark*, and I am of your opinion, that the only way of doing it is by having that matter concerted at the *Hague*, where, as I take it, it is under Consideration; and if *France* will not then contribute towards it, we shall suspect that they have other Designs. The King of *Denmark* has accepted our King's and the States Mediation, tho' it was never propos'd to him; which this Court is glad of, for they fear'd he would never agree to it, which I think there was but little danger of, since they could take such a pretence of doing it, as Discourses between me and their Envoy. I have no Letters from *Mr. Cresset* by this last Post, nor from the *Hague*, but I hear no Armistice is as yet agreed on. The King is in *Holland*.

I desire to know upon what foot you intend to have a Person we call here *Brocard*, or whether my Lord *Jersey* is to take care of him. *Mr. Stanyan* can explain this to you. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S^r I R,

Paris, July 26. 1700.

I Have received the favour of yours of the $\frac{2}{3}$ th instant, and I had great Satisfaction to find the King was so well, we having had a Report here to the contrary.

Several are come from *Scotland* to see what the late King will do, and to press him for Money. They do say, that a Party of the *Scotch* Members do propose to sit by force on the next day that is appointed for their Meeting, and that the *Scotch* Army is well inclined to them, because they take it to be a national Case. I think it proper to mention these things to you, tho' I intend to give *Mr. Secretary Vernon* a full Account, and also their Names, which I dare not venture but in Cypher. After all this, those of *St. Germain's* seem not disposed to part with any Money, nor to take any Measures, but to leave the Party to shift for themselves, and to do what they think best. The same Persons say there is now going to the Press a Book, wherein they asperse all the Ministry and others, who they think had any hand in the late Treaty, concerning the Succession of *Spain*. There are to be three Thousand Copies printed, but not disper'd 'till a little before the Meeting of the Parliament in *England*, that so there may not be time to answer it. Two days ago

passed here a Courier from *Spain* for *Vienna*. We cannot learn as yet what Resolutions they have taken there: but it is thought the Emperor will now, upon this Man's Arrival, declare his opinion in that Affair. I hope to have this day Letters from the North; but I fear little good can be expected from thence, unless Matters are first concerted and agreed on at the *Hague*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 15. 1700.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 21st, and shall acquaint the Secretary of *Scotland* with the Name of the Person you mention. I hope your Excellency will transmit hither whatever Informations you meet with of that kind, since they may be of particular use at this time; and I don't doubt but your Excellency has those, who observe the Motions of the Assassins, and will give you an account whither they go, when they shall disappear. I would be glad to know where Colonel *Parker* now is, or has been of late, because I meet with a Report of his having been at *Bourdeaux*.

When I saw the Paper your Excellency mentions, I believed the *Danes* had committed a wilful mistake, in making use of your Name. His Majesty was sure he had given no such Directions, and my Lord *Jersey* was as positive, that there could be nothing in it but meer Invention; but one has met with some other Instances of Artifice in the Northern Affairs.

There is nothing here to acquaint you with, unless it be that my Lord Privy-Seal died on Wednesday last at his House in *Westmorland*. The Lords Justices will order it to be put in Commission 'till His Majesty's Return from *Holland*.

We hear nothing amiss from *Scotland* (as matters stood there) only the Members of Parliament are gone into their Countries, and have carried with them the new Address, the signing whereof they are to promote: but it is very probable they will have Assurances when their Parliament shall meet, before the Address can be brought up. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, July 27. 1700.

THE Honours of your Lordship's Letters of the 17th and 19th instant I received at the same time, which I immediately laid before the King, who is easily satisfied your Lordship did not give the first occasion to the mistake of the pretended Offer of His Majesty's Mediation in the present Affair of *Denmark*. It has indeed gone so far, that the *Danes* would have persuaded Sir *George Rook* of it in the *Sound*, which occasioned his sending an Express about it to Mr. *Cresset*, from whom he will have known the truth by this time. Your Lordship will find by the inclosed Papers how the several Fleets lay, and that it may go very ill with the *Danes*, unless they come nearer to Reason.

We are setting out this Morning towards *Loo*, from whence I shall constantly give your Lordship the necessary Informations, being always, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 28. 1700.

I Have yours of the 11th of July, wherein I find that Mr. *Bird* has been again with you. I take it that this Ship is already condemned in the Privy-Council here, and cannot tell if any Appeal will lay; tho' if it did, I believe it would have the like fate: yet if he thinks it worth his while to employ here some Person, versed in those matters, I will assist him all I can. The

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Ship was brought into *France* as a Prize. Upon the Complaint I made, Orders were given to examine the Matter of fact, and to lay it before the King; where, amongst other Reasons, it was declared, that the *English* had no Right to trade on that Coast. Whereupon I gave another Memorial in answer to theirs, and after pressing very much, I could obtain nothing further than that the King did not see any grounds to change his Resolution. I took yesterday occasion to see if the Count *de Tallard* had wrote to *Monf. de Torcy*, and I found he had not.

I cannot see but this Court is very desirous to have the Affairs in the North adjusted; and as we have some reason to think *Monf. de Chamilly* too partial, so they say here that the King of *Denmark* complains of *Mr. Cresset*. By my last Letter from him, it looked as if there would soon be a Cessation of Arms.

Monf. de la Tour leaves this place in a few days, and you are not like to see him in *England*, neither does he propose to stay above three Weeks in *Holland*. His Business there is to lay before the King the great Debts that are due from the King of *Spain* to the Duke of *Savoy*. He had an Audience from this King, and assured him that his Master has no Engagements with the Emperor, nor does he in the least dispute the Right of the Dauphin. I find this Court is satisfied now with his going, and will be glad to help him; tho' if he acts otherwise, they will soon find him out.

Sir Charles Matland and Major *Holmes* the Assassin, are lately come from *Scotland*. They have been with the late King, and assure him that a Party in the *Scotch* Parliament is resolved to sit by force, the next Day that is appointed for their Meeting; that the Army is well inclined to them, because they take it to be a national Cause; but they have no hopes of their General *Ramsay*. This *Holmes* was not long in *Scotland*, he being sent from hence lately to D—H—. One *Vavasor* a Lawyer, and one *Burroughs*, are come from *England* on the same account. They pretend they want nothing but Money to restore the late King *James*, and say that the Parliament of *Scotland* will declare the Throne vacant, under pretence that the King has not protected them. This *Vavasor* squints, and is known in *England* by the name of *Fego*. I will endeavour to give you notice when he returns, which, it is said, will be soon. You see by this they would be doing mischief, if they could; but I hope it will not be in their power. They bring also an account, that a Book is in the Press against the Government, upon account of the late Treaty, where all, that can be thought to have acted in it, are named, and very severely treated. They intend not to disperse it till near the next Meeting of the Parliament, that so there may not be time to answer it. This *Vavasor* says he has seen several Sheets of it. If you could see some of them, it might be of use.

The Dauphin entertained yesterday King *James* at *Mendon*. Such things give hopes still to them at *St. Germain*s. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 18. 1700. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 24th instant N. S. As to *Brocard*, *Mr. Prior* gave me an account of him, that he had an Allowance of about two Hundred Pistoles *per Annum*; I suppose my Lord *Jersey* paid him to the time of his going out of the Office, which was at the last Quarter-Day. If he be of any use, it is fit the Allowance should be continued, and be paid as formerly, out of the same Funds with some other Payments of the like nature; and therefore I moved the King for his Directions to the Treasury, that the Fund might be continued during the vacancy of the Office, which I hope will be ordered accordingly, tho' it is not yet done.

I have Directions from the Lords Justices to send you the inclosed Petition, and to desire you will procure the Petitioners what Relief you can. This

seems

seems to be the same Case with the *William and Jane*. The Ship has been seized in or near the same place, on the Coast of *Africa*, upon the same Pretence of being an unlawful Trader, and confiscated to the *Senegal Company*. I suppose they intend to proceed against her in the same manner, in some Court of Admiralty; for I suppose the Company has not that Privilege, by their Charter, to seize what Ships they please, and convert them to their own use without Process, or giving the Owners an Opportunity to defend their Rights. If Judgment be given, I think it adviseable, that an Appeal be brought in both Cases according to the Treaty. Thus our Right may, upon so solemn a hearing, be either asserted or given up: for otherwise the Consequence, your Excellency foresees, will be unavoidable, that People must be left to a lawless State on that Coast, and he that is strongest must have the Trade; and when such a Hearing is ordered, our *African Company* will think fit to concern themselves a little more than they are said to have done hitherto for those that are Permission-Ships, tho' they have all the Right to that Trade by Act of Parliament that the Company can have, paying them the stated Allowance for their Licence. Yet as the Company opposed their being admitted into this Privilege, while the Act was passing, so the Merchants think they are careless what becomes of their Ships, provided their own be secured. But when the Point of Right must come to be determined, they will consider how far they are concerned in it, and I don't accuse them that they have hitherto been wanting herein. But I give this hint, by what I have gathered from the Persons, who came to me about the *William and Jane*.

I send your Excellency the Copy of Mons. *Tallard's* Memorial, which you writ for. I take notice of an Expression in it, which says the *English* and *French* Companies ought to join, and drive the *Dutch* Interlopers from the Coast. I take the meaning of it to be, that all Ships, which do not belong to one or other of those Companies, ought to be treated as Interlopers: but that is giving a very wrong name to Ships that trade thither under an Act of Parliament, which are now admitted to the said Freedom of Trade that the Company has. The Act of Parliament was made for the good of our Plantations, that they may be furnished with Negroes in greater plenty, and at a cheaper rate by the Merchants supplying them, upon paying an Acknowledgement to the Company, or fetching them in their own Ships; and if these are to be looked upon as Interlopers, and be confiscated, whenever they are overpowered, the Act is made insignificant, and the Plantations will be put into a worse Condition than they were before. Since this Controversy is likely often to recur, and being a matter of such consequence, I think it ought to pass through all its Forms; and the rather, since the *Senegal Company* is so befriended at Court, Tryal ought to be made how far it influences in Judgment. When a final Sentence is given, His Majesty must consider whether His Subjects must acquiesce in it.

We are like to be alarmed here by the Squadron that is gathering under Mons. *Ponti's* Command. We think it is too big already for any thing they can have to do at *Sallee*, and we hear of many more Ships that are coming to him, besides what he may expect from several Parts of *France*. I suppose this Design has been explained to your Excellency, or otherwise you will endeavour to get what Information you can concerning it.

We have an account this Morning of the Arrival of a considerable Fleet of Merchantmen from *Virginia*, under the Convoy of two Men of War. These Ships have brought home above a hundred Pyrates, who were taken on the Coast of *Virginia* by His Majesty's Ship the *Shoreham*. This is a Crew made up of several Nations, most of them are *French*, (as is the Commander;) they first set out from *Petit Guaves* in a small Vessel, and by ranging about, they got a Ship of Twenty-two Guns and a Hundred and Fifty Men, which was grown very formidable. I hope they will be no more so.

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We have no News here, more than that the Countess of *Clarendon* died yesterday Morning. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, July 29. 1700.

I Delivered the inclosed to Mr. *Blathwayt*, according to your Excellency's Commands in your Letter of the 19th instant, and find the *Danish* Story of your offering the King's Mediation, and their accepting it upon that sham, does not all affect you, but is looked upon by every body as a *Danish* Trick, of which they have lately offered at several others to amuse Sir *George Rook*; but all in vain, for he sticks close to his first Instructions, 'till he shall receive others by the right Channel of some of His Majesty's Ministers. Our Fleet is at the mouth of the Port of *Copenhagen*, whither the *Danes* are retired in great confusion, and we may burn both them and the City if we please. I would not have it proceed so far, tho' I expect to hear by the next Post of some execution done, which will be necessary, to abate something of the *Fierté* of that King.

You will have in print the Defeat of the *Saxons*, after they had for two days ravaged the Country of *Zell*, and it was in confidence of their Success *Denmark* would not admit of the Armistice offered by the Allies. He may now possibly be more humble. His accepting to enter into the Treaty about the *Spanish* Succession was not absolute, but like all the rest, full of Trick and Design; adding, it was necessary a Peace were first agreed in the North, which by giving us those hopes, he hoped to make with better Terms for himself.

The King parted hence on Monday last. He lay that Night at his House of *Krantzberg*, the next Night at *Soesdyke*, and was to be at *Loo* last Night. His Majesty seemed in good Health, and was in good Humour.

The abovementioned Northern Accounts arrived since he went hence, so we know nothing of his Resolution thereupon. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 30. 1700.

MONS. *de la Tour* sets out in a Day or two for *Loo*. His Business there is, to lay before the King the State of the Debts due from the Crown of *Spain* to his Master. He had an Audience of the *French* King, whereat he has assured him that the Duke of *Savoy* is under no Engagements with the Emperor, nor does he dispute the Right of the Dauphin; but hopes that at this Juncture he may also be considered, in that which he thinks he has so much Right to. I am of opinion this Court is now satisfied with his going, and will help him as much as they can, in case he signs the Treaty, which they told Mons. *de la Tour* is the first Step that ought to be made. He has desired that the *French* Ministers with you may have Orders to assist him in these Pretensions, and I believe they will; for I suppose it does little concern them here, what the Crown of *Spain* is to pay, in case they themselves are not engaged in any thing of it, and they think it may be proper to keep some Measures with the Duke of *Savoy*. I believe it will be convenient the King should be acquainted with this before he comes. I have not discoursed with him about any thing of this matter, but most of this account I had from Mons. *de Torcy*.

The Letters from *Spain* of the 17th bring nothing very considerable, only that the Great Men there are still inclined for a Prince of *France*, that so their

their Monarchy may not be divided. The King of *Spain* has his Health better than ever, as they pretend. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. SUTTON.

S I R,

July 30. 1700.

I Had the favour of your's of the 16th, and I find that where you are matters are still uncertain. The Emperor must now soon come to some Resolution. His Courier that went to *Spain*, passed lately here in his return to *Vienna*; and it is thought, that in case the King of *Spain* is not inclined to declare the Arch-Duke his Successor, the Emperor will sign the Treaty. I am of opinion that the Resolutions of *Spain*, whatever they be, won't signify much, they being not in a condition to support 'em; and it is certain that the Great Men there, are almost all for a Prince of *France* for the whole Succession, and they would not have the Monarchy divided, and think if the *French* would accept it, they are able to maintain it better than the Emperor. I wish your Court may see so well their Interest, as not to lose this opportunity, by putting it out of the power of the King our Master to help them, which must certainly be the consequence if they don't accede. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Florence, July 30. 1700.

I Wrote to your Excellency the 23d, advising what passed at my Audience with the Great Duke, and at midnight (after the Post was dispatched) I received from Cavalier *Montemagni*, Secretary of State, a few Lines bringing me his Highness's Answer: Copies of both I do inclose, by which your Excellency will find the Great Duke expresses himself very much obliged to His Majesty, but seeks to gain time by his general Answer, without mentioning whether he will or will not enter into the Guaranty of the Treaty; my opinion being, that his Highness is willing first to know what the Emperor and *Venetians* resolve, and accordingly will take his measures. I do likewise send your Excellency a Copy of his Highness's Answer to the *French* Envoy, being much to the same purpose, which the Envoy dispatched to his most Christian Majesty by a Courier extraordinary, and till the return (which he tells me may be in fifteen days) will move no further. I must also wait His Majesty's Commands; tho' I intend to let the Secretary of State know, that my hopes were his Highness would have been more particular. When any thing further occurs meriting your Excellency's notice, I will not fail to participate it. I am, &c.

LAMBERT BLACKWELL.

Copy of a Letter from the Count MONTEMAGNI, Secretary of State, &c. to Sir LAMBERT BLACKWELL, the King's Envoy at Florence.

Translated out of Italian.

S I R,

THE Occupations I have this Evening, hinder me from coming in person, as I wished to do, to give an Answer to you to the Affair proposed last Night by you to the Grand Duke my Master: but that I might not fail letting you know it, I have wrote it on the annexed Paper, and it is

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the same which I was to have brought by word of mouth. Desirous of your further Commands, I remain, &c.

Secretary's Office,
July 23, 1700.

CORIOLANO MONTEMAGNI.

The GRAND DUKE's Answer to the English Envoy, by his Secretary MONTEMAGNI, &c.

Translated out of Italian.

THE Great Duke, my Master, cannot enough admire the great Zeal, and the great Providence of His Majesty the King of *Great Britain*, for the preservation of the Tranquillity of *Europe*, and by consequence also of *Italy*, in which his Highness has so great an interest; therefore, and on this consideration also does his most Serene Highness give the highest thanks to his *Britannick* Majesty for this most obliging Participation given him by the means of the Cavalier *Blackwell*, his Envoy Extraordinary: And the Great Duke professes, that he is much obliged to the Goodness of the King for this very singular Honour which he has been pleased to bestow upon this occasion.

The GRAND DUKE's Answer to the French Envoy.

Translated out of Italian.

THE Great Duke, my Master, admires the great Piety and the great Zeal of his Majesty the King, for the maintenance of the common Peace and Quiet; and above all, as to what concerns *Italy*, where his Highness finds so great reason to hope to see the Repose and Tranquillity always more established. His most Serene Highness gives therefore the greatest Thanks to his Majesty, for what he has been pleased to participate to him by Monsr. *Duprè*, his Envoy Extraordinary, declaring himself infinitely obliged to his Goodness, for the most distinct Honour he has vouchsafed to do him on this occasion.

Sir LAMBERT BLACKWELL's Speech to the GRAND DUKE.

Translated out of Italian.

THE King my Master, having always had a warm desire to procure all possible Tranquillity to *Europe*, has ordered me to communicate to your most Serene Highness, what is contained in the Regulation settled between His Majesty, the most Christian King, and the Lords the States-General, for the Succession of *Spain*, by which the Peace and Quiet of *Europe* will be yet more established. Therefore I have received Orders from my Sovereign, to propose to your Highness to enter into the Guaranty of the said Establishment; and I give myself the Honour to leave with your Highness a Copy of the Extract which was sent to me, praying to have your Sentiments upon it, that so I may advise His Majesty, the King my Master, of it, &c.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, July 30. 1700.

I Was going to send your Excellency the Copy of this day's Dispatch to Mr. *Blathwayt*, when I received your Favour of the 23d instant, for which I return my acknowledgment. Your Excellency plainly sees the tricking of the *Danish* Court, in shuffling the King our Master into a Mediation, to elude the force of his Guaranty. Count *Chamilly* juggles to serve the Court where he resides, which subsists only upon poor Shifts and Lyes. If our *Spanish* Treaty cannot find better and surer supports than at *Copenhagen*, I shall be
sorry

forry for it. Your Excellency may please to acquaint the *French* Ministry (if you think fit) that, notwithstanding all the Confidence the *Danish* Court has in their Ambassador the Count *Chamilly*, it has made a Mystery to him of a Letter lately sent from the King of *Spain* to the King of *Denmark*, upon the Subject of our late Treaty; and this Matter came out by accident at Supper, at my House, two Nights ago, where I had only Count *Chamilly* and the *Spanish* Minister.

Sir *George Rook* has bombarded *Copenhagen*, which I look upon as a good Step towards Peace, which will never be made by reasoning with unreasonable and unjust People.

The *Danish* Privateers continue to be very troublesome and impertinent in the River *Elbe* to all Navigation. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of JERSEY Lord Chamberlain.

My Lord,

Paris, July 31. 1700.

I Must beg your Lordship's pardon for opening your Letter from Mr. *Schoenberg*, which I did by mistake, it being under a Cover to me. I chose rather to own this, than to make you think it was done by somebody else. The other I had from Monf. *Heemskerck*. I have also inclosed a Copy of a Letter I lately received from M. *d'Hervuert*. The last time I saw Monf. *de Torcy*, he said to me, that he thought he did not act so heartily as he ought to do in that matter; but he said it was not by Order of the King. It may be that Monf. *de Puyseux* and he are not upon good Terms. It is true, he did not go to the Diet himself, as he acquainted you. This you will judge of best, I thought it proper to mention it.

I have had no Answer yet from Mr. *Blathwayt* concerning the Paper, wherein I am named, as if I had proposed the King our Master's Mediation. I think their Artifice shews itself: yet I am concerned, because I find by Mr. *Robinson*, that the *Danes* made use of it as an Argument to hinder our Fleet and the *Swedes* from joining, tho' it had not the Effect they wished for. Certainly all the World must own, that if the King had offered His Mediation, it would have been done by his own Ministers in that Court, and not in the manner it is pretended.

The Prince of *Ligne*, who was here, went away two Days ago for *Flanders*, without saying any thing to me; so I hope that matter is at an end. Since this I also understand, that when Lord *Portland* was here, he did speak to the Ministers here in his Behalf, and he found it convenient to let that Matter fall, it having some Raport to the Affair of Madame *Desanguin*.

I suppose you have thoughts of going soon to the King, which makes me desire your Assistance and Favour, to ask that I may have leave to go and pay my Duty to His Majesty at *Loo*. If I could think that my staying here, when the Court is at *Fontainebleau*, was of any use, I should be far from desiring it, since I shall always prefer the King's Business before any Satisfaction I can propose to myself, as long as I have the honour to be employed in His Majesty's Service. This Court goes about the 23d of *September* this Stile to *Fontainebleau*, and it is said that King *James* goes in ten Days after, when he will stay three Weeks. It is impossible for me to appear there all that time, and I do not propose to be from hence so long. I am apt to think I might give the King some Light in the Affairs here, or at least I should be better able to serve Him on my Return, after having had the Honour to know his Thoughts fully. I shall not take notice of this Request to any but your self, unless you think it proper, and if you mention it to my Lord *Albemarle*, I flatter myself that he is so much my Friend, as to assist me in it. I would not press the King however, if he does not like it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

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To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 31. 1700.

I Have the favour of yours of the 15th instant, and shall certainly take care to watch the Assassins, tho' at present I cannot learn what their coming here means. As for Colonel *Parker*, he may have been at *Bourdeaux*; but he has been for some time here, and appears publickly. They all go to *St. Germain's*, but it is said King *James* does not see them. I cannot think they will attempt any thing of the like nature again, unless some desperate one should attempt it alone. Besides I am satisfied, that at *St. Germain's* they fear the like should befall them. Nevertheless one can never be too careful.

The Person I mentioned is the Son of Sir *William H—*, tho' he goes by that Name here. He is not gone as yet, but he intended it. He is always with those of *St. Germain's*, and is intirely in their Interest. I cannot tell whether it is by Order of his Father, but I should think not, he being now Lieutenant-Governour of the Castle of *Edinburgh*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Bern, August 1. 1700.

YOU have seen by my last Letter to my Lord *Jersey*, which I took the liberty to send you unsealed, what I had done, pursuant to the Orders of the King, about the Treaty of Succession of *Spain*, which you had the Goodness to send to me. I communicated it, in conjunction with M. *de Puyseux*, to the Cantons, assembled by their Deputies; he and I having invited them to enter into it, and to subscribe the Guaranty. Their Answer was such, as we foresaw; that is, the Deputies promised that each would make a Report to its Sovereign. It is easy to judge that they will endeavour to gain as much time as they can. As the Diet is finished, we can have no positive Answer from the Cantons, but at another which must be called on purpose; and we intend to push for it, when we shall think it a fit time. If we cannot persuade them to engage themselves in form in the Guaranty for the Execution of the Treaty, we flatter ourselves that we shall at last obtain, that they will not permit that the Troops, which the Emperor might send to oppose it, shall pass. At this we work with all our Might, that is, M. *de Puyseux* and I, as also M. *Valkenier*, who is arrived in *Schweizerland* within these eight Days to assist us, by Order of the States-General his Masters. He did stay here two Days, and is gone to *Soleure*, from thence he is to go to *Zurich*, and thence to *Coire*, the Capital of the *Grisons*. I am, &c.

D'HERVAERT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 22. 1700. O. S.

THE little News we have here is the Reason I do not trouble your Lordship oftner. Your Lordship has already heard of the Death of my Lord Privy-Seal, and we are now expecting how this Office will be disposed of. The King has declared that he will commit the Custody of the Privy-Seal very soon to a single Person: who is the Person designed, I cannot yet tell your Lordship.

The *Scotch* are now convinced, that the News about *Darien* is true, for some Persons are arrived in *Scotland*, who were at the signing of the Capitulation with the *Spaniards*; in pursuance of which, they all embarked, and directed their Courie to some of the *English* Plantations, their Ships not being

being in a Condition to go directly home. The discontented Party in *Scotland* seeing their Measures broke, in relation to *Darien*, are setting up a new Device to distinguish themselves by, and foment an Animosity, by entering into an Association or Agreement, whereby they promise, on their Honour and Conscience, to wear no foreign Manufactures, nor drink any *French Wine*; which the Privy-Council looking upon as of dangerous Consequence, and it being directly against an Act of Parliament, which forbids the entering into any Leagues, Covenants, or Engagements of that kind, without the King's Leave, they published a Proclamation, forbidding all Persons to sign the Association: but notwithstanding this, several of the Nobility and Gentry had subscribed the same, and they were handing it about for new Hands.

I suppose your Lordship has heard that my Lord *Ranelagh* is made *Superintendent* of the King's Buildings, tho' I do not find he has yet any Salary settled for this new Office. His present Business will be to finish *Hampton-Court*. I am, &c.

R. YARD.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

London, July 22. 1700. O.S.

I Have the honour of your Excellency's of the 24th instant N. S. for which I return my most humble Thanks. I have talked with Mr. Secretary *Vernon* about *Brocard*, who tells me that he spoke with the King before He went, about settling an Allowance upon him and some others, but that His Majesty forgot to give Directions about them; so that unless some part of the secret Service-Money, which was allowed the other Secretary, be appropriated for that Use, he cannot afford to pay him out of his own Pocket. However he is of opinion, that he ought to be kept in pay, and doubts not but His Majesty will order Money out of the Treasury for his Payment, when he comes back, if not before; therefore he bids me tell you, the only Expedient he can think of at present is, that your Excellency should pay him upon the same foot you have hitherto done, and when the King returns, he will repay you, if any be allotted for that purpose; which he makes no doubt of, because the King told him he would do it, and only forgot to give Directions to the Treasury; or at the worst, he says, he will allow any Sum you shall lay out in this Service, in your Extraordinaries, tho' they should exceed the Regulation. This is the Substance of what he ordered me to acquaint your Excellency with upon that Matter.

I gave your Excellency's Service to Mr. *Montague*, and told him you desired to hear from him; so he told me he would write to you by my Lord *Kingston*, who embarks at *Greenwich* this Evening on board a Yacht, and designs to land at *Dieppe*. Several Knights and Kit-Catters wait upon him to his Yacht, so it may perhaps be Tuesday Morning before they sail. I can hear of no body but Mr. *Manwaring* who goes with him, but yesterday Colonel *Seymour*, Colonel *Palmes*, and *Robin Dormer* set out for *Dover*, and will be with your Lordship soon after, for they intend to loiter a little at *Lisle* with Colonel *Withers* and Colonel *Bretton*, which two return home from thence.

Every thing is quiet, and like to be so, 'till the King comes back, so your Excellency must not expect any Politicks from me 'till that time. We want a Secretary mightily, and why your Lordship should not settle that matter when you go to *Loo*, I can't see any reason. Perhaps the King will be glad to provide for your Lordship that way, to save the Expence of an Ambassador at *Paris*: but of this your Lordship is the best Judge. I am, &c.

ABRAHAM STANYAN.

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To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, August 4. 1700.

I Have yours of the 18th of *July*, O. S. with a Petition of one *Daniel Johnson* taken on the Coast of *Africa*. It is certainly the same Case as that of the *William and Jane*. I have inclosed the Reasons, which the *Senegal* Company gave for condemning her as a Prize, and Mr. *Prior* can give you the whole Proceedings. I fear this will have the like Fate: nevertheless I do intend to give in a Memorial. I cannot tell by the Petition, whether the Ship was brought to *Havre de Grace*, or sold where it was taken. Besides, the Master should, on his landing, have made a Complaint to the Admiralty Court there, and entered his Depositions; and if he had not there Justice done, he might appeal, as may also the Persons concerned in the *William and Jane*, if they please: but then they must send some Person to follow it at *Havre de Grace*, or at the Admiralty of that Province. All I can do is to assist them at Court, for generally the Proceedings are not at *Paris*; besides, there is a considerable Expence, which I suppose they cannot expect I should be at, and great Attendance. I do own, that if we ever had a Right to trade on that Coast, it ought to be settled if possible; but you will see by the Papers inclosed, that they say we have none, and by their Charter, &c. this King has granted them this Coast of *Portugal*, exclusive of all Persons whatsoever. So that, if this be Matter of Fact, there is no doubt, but upon the *Senegal* Company's producing this, they will have Judgment for them in all the Courts of *France*. I take it, that it does concern very much our *African* Company to take care of this Matter, in case they would preserve this Trade: but I am rather of opinion, they do not intend it, and as much as I can see, they have very seldom traded there; and as for the River of *Gambia*, the *French* do not dispute our Right. The Extract of Count *Tallard's* Memorial is a Complaint in those Parts, and has no relation to the Coast of *Portugal*. I should be glad to know if any of our *African* Company's Ships do trade on that Coast; and if so, whether they have not Leave of the *Senegal* Company here, or if their Ships are taken, &c. I thought it proper to enlarge on this Subject, that you may see how the Case stands, and I need not tell you how high they are here in a Case, where they seem resolved to assert. This should not make me decline any thing that is possible to do, in case the Parties concerned would take right Measures, and would follow it as they ought: but to speak plain, they are for saving their Money, insomuch that the Captain of the *William and Jane* could hardly obtain what was sufficient for his own Expence here. They should employ some Merchant here, that is acquainted with the Proceedings of this Country, and who on all Occasions might apply to me.

As to what you write concerning *Monf. Pointi's* Squadron, I cannot see there can be any Reason to alarm us. His Squadron consists of eight Men of War, and four Gallies. The last Account, we had, was of the 10th of *July*. He was then on the Coast of *Sallee*, at a Place call'd *la Roche*, where he was founding the Coast with his Ship: but upon their firing, he was forced to retire. *Monf. Nesmond's* Squadron consists of twelve Men of War. It is said they may possibly join and winter at *Cadiz*. Ten Gallies, that went from *Toulon*, are sailed for *Messina*; and it is not yet known if the ten more, that are sitting there, are not to follow. I will endeavour to inform myself more particularly. I look upon all this to regard *Spain*; and as the Emperor's Minister in *Spain* has talked so high against the Treaty, *France* is willing to be in a Condition to prevent any Measures, that may be taken to their prejudice: besides, they are pleased enough to give Law in the *Mediterranean*.

As to *Brocard*, he is of use, and it might be of ill consequence, if he was laid aside: besides, by having several, one finds out the Truth easier. I do assure you that they are mightily pleas'd at *St. Germain's*, and think soon to be

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be in *England*. All their Hopes is on the King's being so ill at *London*, that he can live but a few Months longer, and this they have spread about; besides some Letters from *England* with News, that he has had a Fall from his Horse also. Mr. *Blathwayt's* Letter brought that the King was perfectly recovered of the Indisposition he had in *England*; which I hope is true, and that they will be disappointed. Colonel *Parker* is still here, with the rest of the Assassins. If any thing was on foot, he would be the Chief; but he is very necessitous. I am told that one Mr. *Deering*, and one *Saunders* of *Dublin*, have lent him, on his Bond, a hundred Pounds; and if so, he cannot get any Money from *St. Germain's*. They say he is sometimes in private with King *James*, but it is in the Night; for neither he, nor any of the others, do publickly appear at that Court. Colonel *Slingsby* is come from *England*, and has given them great Hopes, and says also the King cannot live long. One *Scudamore*, a Player in *Lincoln's Inn Fields*, has been here, and was with the late King, and often at *St. Germain's*. I believe he is now at *London*. Several of such sort of Fellows go and come very often: but I cannot see how it can be prevented: for, without a positive Oath, nothing can be done to them. Lord *Exeter* is come near *Paris*, he intends to see *Versailles*, &c. and then to go for *England*. I believe he will not come to me, and I know it is expected he will go elsewhere: but it may be, he will deceive them. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 25. 1700. O. S.

WE have had two *French* Mails on Tuesday last, which brought your Excellency's Letters of the 28th and 31st instant, N. S.

I shall forbear saying any more concerning our Ships, that have been seized on the Coast of *Guinea*, 'till I see in what manner the *African* Company justify their Right to that Trade. I asked Mr. *Prior*, whether the Case of the *William and Jane* had undergone an Appeal. He thinks it has not, but it rests upon the Sentence given in the inferiour Court. He is of your Lordship's Opinion, that a Review of the Sentence will have little effect; and the rather, since Monf. *Ponchartrain* will preside, when the Appeal comes to be heard, who, he hears, is very much interested in that Company: but I think that Reason should not discourage any from bringing an Appeal. An interested Man does not always care to appear so in publick Judicature: but there his Reputation is a Counter-Ballance to his Interest, which will help to keep off a Determination against a well-grounded Title. If our Company are not well assured they have such a one, I would have no body be further troubled in this Matter. That we shall better see, when their Reasons are drawn up.

I have acquainted my Lord *Seafeld* with what your Excellency writes, concerning the Affairs of *Scotland*. He does not know Sir *John Maitland*, but will inquire about him. It is of great use to be rightly informed of all Correspondences relating to *Scotland*, particularly with D— H—. I have employed one to inform me concerning *Vavasor* and *Burroughs*, where they are to be found, when in *England*. I hope your Excellency will have an Account, when either of them comes from thence. I should be glad to know which way they take, whether by *Calais*, or *Dunkirk*, and the like, for his Father has a very good Character. There is one Colonel *Hursels* there, whom my Lord *Portland* made use of, and carried him with him thence. He pretends to do Service still. I should be glad to know what Opinion they have of him at *St. Germain's*, and with whom he corresponds there. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 6. 1700.

THE last I had from you was of the $\frac{1}{2}$ th of *July*, wherein you mention that the King was satisfied, &c. I did not give such an Occasion, as they were willing to understand it in *Denmark*. In this manner it is impossible to discourse with publick Ministers, and had *Monf. Meyercroon* not justified me, I would never have spoke to him any more, but when I should have had positive Orders. The News he has received of our Fleet's bombarding theirs, puts this matter out of dispute. Yesterday I saw *Monf. de Torcy*, who mentioned it to me. I told him, that as I had no Account of it, I could say nothing but by Conjecture; that since the King of *Denmark* did still decline agreeing to a Cessation of Arms, as does appear by *Monf. de Chamilly's* own Letter, and by the *Saxons* entering into the Duke of *Zell's* Country; for my part, I could have easily imagined it might have been of worse Consequence to the *Danes* than the Loss of one Man, as is said here is the Case. I was willing to try whether this Court wishes heartily for the Peace in the North; and I must confess, if Words can shew it, I cannot see but they are sincere: only this is certain, that they will try whether they can procure *Denmark* tolerable Conditions. He told me they had sent a Project to the *French* Ambassador to be communicated to the Pensionary, &c. I need not enlarge on that, since you know it. I know that *France* is suspected in all parts, in relation to the Affairs of the North, and it is impossible for me to judge so well as those, who are where the matter is transacted.

I found by Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, that he was very desirous to know where *Monf. Pointi's* Squadron was. During my Discourse with *Monf. de Torcy*, he told me they had Letters very lately, that he had been before *Tangier*, and ruined some Houses there, that he was now before *Ceuta*, and had offered the Governour his Assistance in beating the *Moors* from thence; and that the Governor had answered that he could not accept of it till he had Orders from the King of *Spain*. I am of opinion, that this is making a Compliment, which they know will not be accepted. He has but seven Ships, and no Land-Forces. It may be, that if they desire it in *Spain*, the *French* will soon send some. Ten Gallies, that went from *Toulon*, are gone to *Messina*: but *Monf. de Torcy* says, that they are not to do any thing, and it is rather to shew their Strength there.

Lord *Scarsdale* and Lord *Kingston* are come to *Paris*: but not together. The Duke of *Grafton* goes towards *Italy* in a few Days. I hope soon to hear from you. It is impossible to think how many Reports are here about the King's Health, but they begin to blow over. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, August 6. 1700.

I Have this Day received your Excellency's Favour of *July* the 30th, for which I return my Acknowledgments.

I herewith inclose the first of the late Conferences managed by the *French* Ministers. It is all in the Air, without Foundation, and taken only *ad referendum* on both sides. Next Sunday Count *Chamilly* intends another fine Meeting at his House in this Neighbourhood, where they are like to do as much good as they have done hitherto. What I mean in telling your Excellency, that the whole Matter would be decided at once is, that I presume a Project of a just and reasonable Peace may be concerted at the *Hague*, and sent hither to us, to put it in execution; otherwise I see no end of these Disputes.

I do not yet believe any Order is gone to put our Squadron under Inaction. I sent two of my own Domesticks express but this Day to Sir *George Rook* by two several ways: but I presume not to forbid them the *Voyes de fait*, since his Majesty's Declaration receives no satisfactory Answer as yet. The Descents are going on from *Sweden*, and the Transport is expected at *Wismar* this Day. I have personal, as well as politick Reasons, to long for Peace, for no Dog can be more tired with Bear-baiting than I am. I wish your Excellency Health and Prosperity, and am, &c.

JAMES CRÉSSET:

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, August 7. 1700.

SINCE my last I discoursed with *Monf. de Torcy*, and asked him about the Squadron of *Monf. Pointi*. He tells me, that he had been before *Tangier*, and destroyed those Houses that were left; and that since he was at *Ceuta*, he had offered the Governour to assist him against the *Moors*; but that he could not accept of it till he had Orders from the King of *Spain*: upon which I asked him, whether he had Force sufficient. He said, he thought not, having only seven Men of War, some Galleys, and no Land-Forces. I am apt to think that they had some thoughts of taking *Tangier*, but they found the Port so destroyed, that it was not easy to do, the Expence being more than the Place is worth. As for *Ceuta*, that was only a Compliment, which they know will not be accepted, they having already tried it in *Spain*: besides, they think it will be a means to ingratiate themselves with the *Spaniards*. In case they should accept of it, there are ten Galleys more at *Toulon* ready to sail, with them they could also soon send some Regiments. The News of our bombarding the *Danes* makes a great noise here: but I can see it is generally thought the only means to procure Peace. I did not find *Monf. de Torcy* surpris'd at it, tho' they could wish there was not that occasion. It is evident, that the *Danes* have been shuffling all this while, and tho' they have hopes of help from *France*, I believe they will be deceived: neither is it in the power of *France* to help them, as the Case stands. I am glad of it, since it puts out of dispute the pretended Offer of the King's Mediation. *Mr. Greg* is gone from *Copenhagen*. The *Danish* Minister here says, that he was so imprudent as to get upon a Tower to see the bombarding the better; whereupon the People were so enraged, that they would have done him a mischief: but Care was taken to prevent it. The truth of this you will soon know, and I can hardly rely upon any thing, 'till I have it from better hands.

I did mention to *Monf. de Torcy* the Case of the *William and Jane*, and also of the last, and on Tuesday I am to give him a Memorial. He is uneasy at this, and he has reason: for the *English* are not alone, that are served in this manner, but the *Dutch*, *Danes*, and *Portuguese*, their Ministers having made the same Complaints. It is come to that, that I believe the *Senegal* Company is not able to make Satisfaction. I have informed myself, and find that the Method they have in these Cases, is not as in others, there being a proper Council to determine what relates to the *Senegal* Company. I shall do all I can, and means must be found out to prevent it for the future; tho' there are now two Ships at *St. Malo*, ready to sail, who have Orders to take all Ships whatsoever on that Coast. I fear we must come to that, and serve them in the same manner.

Lord *Scarsdale* is here, and he does assure me, that he will have nothing to do with those of *St. Germans*. Lord *Kingston* arrived also last Night. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 9. 1700.

I Have none of yours to acknowledge, and very little else to send, besides the inclosed which I received from *Florence*. To-morrow I shall see Monf. *de Torcy*, and hear what he says concerning the Affairs of the North: but I shall not begin the Discourse. The *Danish* Envoy complains very much, and I am apt to think he has yet some hopes here, but cannot see that they are well-grounded; tho' I am told that the *French* Ministers with you, in their Discourses, seem to be very much for the *Danes*. It may be proper that I should know His Majesty's Thoughts on that Subject, that I may act accordingly. The Letters that are come by way of *Navarre* take notice, that Count *Harrach* has complimented the Queen of *Spain* upon the hopes that she is with Child. Her Answer was, that God Almighty could do whatever he thought good. Most Men think that Count *Harrach* has been a little too forward to act in this manner, where there is so little reason to believe it. The King of *Spain* has stopp'd all Pensions and supernumerary Offices, for twenty Years, in order to supply the Occasions of his Country. This they say will amount to a very great Sum, and if rightly employed, put their Affairs in a better Condition.

The *French* Ambassador and *French* Cardinals at *Rome* have prevailed with the Pope not to hold a Consistory, and Orders are sent to the Cardinal *de Bouillon* immediately to return: but it is thought, that as he has disobeyed twice, he will do it again. I cannot tell where this will end. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, August 9. 1700.

CAPTAIN *Guy* having been dispatched to me from Sir *George Rook* to be forwarded to His Majesty at *Loo*; he is posted from hence about an Hour since, and I am desirous to make your Excellency acquainted with the important News he carries, viz. that on the 4th instant in the Afternoon, the *Swedes* landed five Thousand Foot about three Miles from *Elsingor* in *Zealand*. Some Opposition was made by a Body of Horse and Foot with four Field-Pieces: but our Cannon soon dispersed the *Danes*, so that the *Swedes* landed at ease, without losing a Man, seized upon the said Field-Pieces, and posted themselves where they thought fit. Captain *Guy* left them intrenched near the Sea-Coast, till their Cavalry can be waisted over to them, to sustain their March, which will go on with a witness, the King of *Sweden* being in Person with his Troops, and to be followed with no less than six Thousand Horse, as Sir *George Rook* writes me word, all which are probably debarked by this time. Your Excellency will judge it is high time for *Denmark* to think of Peace: but I yet can see no Appearance of it. There are Conferences at the Camp at *Segeberg*, but things come yet to no Consistency. The abovementioned Descent, I presume, is however a good step towards a Conclusion, unless there be a Fatality for the total Ruin of *Denmark*, which we do not desire. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

The Reader will observe, how different this plain true Account is from what Mr. Voltaire says of this Landing, in his diverting History of Charles the Twelfth King of Sweden.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, August 11. 1700.

I Shall take care to satisfy you in what you desire in your last of the 25th of July. As to what you say, that the Father has a good Character, and the Actions of his Son may be unknown to him: but in my Opinion he ought not to let him continue here. It is certain, that most of that Nation that are here, are that way inclined. An Express arrived yesterday from Madrid, in his way to Vienna. He brings no further Account of the Queen of Spain's being with Child; yet Count Harrach had complimented her upon the Report, which some think he might as well have let alone. Her Answer to him was, that God would do what he pleased. I find that in Spain they are resolved to court the King our Master. Schonenberg has been admitted to an Audience of the King, and what passed in relation to Canales in England will be forgot, and another will be named. Don Quiros is certainly ordered to return to the Hague. All this matter has been brought about by the Queen, and it is said, that our King has wrote to her, which has produced this good Effect. In short, the Spanish Ambassador here takes all Occasions to oblige me, which I return in the same manner. They now find it their Interest to be well with England.

Monf. Pointi is still before Ceuta, and it is said, that Spain has consented they should land and attack the Moors, provided they do it out of Cannon-shot of the Town. This will meet with its Difficulties, and I am of opinion little will be done.

I do find this Court does not like our bombarding the Danes, tho' they don't complain to me. They cannot help them, if they were so inclined; and it is to be hoped our King will bring that matter soon to a Conclusion.

I have delivered a Memorial concerning the St. George, and shall have an Answer in writing. I have used all the Arguments I could think of to Monf. de Torcy, and he did seem to me to think it would be well if some Expedient was found out to accommodate this matter. All what they go upon is, that the Senegal Company has the Coast granted to them, exclusive of all others, upon Treaties with those Black Kings.

I shall obey your Orders concerning Brocard. It is so hard to get any Money out of the Treasury, that it does a little discourage me: but I am resolved to go on as long as I can, being here at a great expence, which cannot be avoided. I hear the Treasury-Meeting is broke up, when they meet again, I must desire you to assist me in what you can, which will oblige, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of ALBEMARLE.

My Lord,

Paris, August 12. 1700.

I Have been this Day made acquainted with a Scheme by a Person unknown to me, who desired I would meet him in a private Place, which I did; he giving me to understand it was a Design against the King's Life. I am sensible His Majesty will not easily believe it, tho' I hope your Lordship will take effectual Care that none come near him but who are known. Tho' I may be deceived in this Matter, yet I thought it of too great a Consequence to stay 'till I had made further Inquiries, which I shall not fail to do.

The Person, who gives me this Information, is one Daniel Breane, who says he is a reformed Lieutenant in Colonel Lee's Regiment in the French Service, and now quartered at Bethune, in the way to Lille. I know there is such a Colonel, and I have seen him often at Versailles. This Person assures me, that at his Quarters one Richard Evans proposed to him to go for Loo, and offered him what Money he would, having been long his Acquaintance, that he might make his Fortune; that their Design was to kill the Prince of Orange,

Orange, as they call'd him; that the chief Person in this Design was one *William Grimes*, who has been in *England*, and went from thence to *Holland*. He goes by another Name, and has been often near the King; he thinks he is now at *Loo*, and knows him perfectly well. With him are concerned one *James Newman* and *Morgan Mullongon*. He says there was one *Huggein* concerned: but *Grimes*, fearing he should discover them, killed him at *Paris*. This Design has been on foot for some time, and they thought to have done it in *England*. He assures me, that when he refused to be engaged, *Evans* told him he would lose an Opportunity, which he would repent, and took leave of him on Monday last (he going with him some part of the way) and said he should be soon near *Loo*. I would have sent him with *Mr. Chetwynd*, who will deliver this to your Lordship: but he pretends he is so well known by the Officers upon the Road, that he was afraid to be seen with him, but he has promised to meet him beyond *Mons*; and in case he should miss of him, I have given him a Note to *Mr. Blathwayt*, which he will send to him as soon as he comes to *Loo*. I cannot see that he can have any great end in this, if it should be all a Trick, for he has had but eight Louis of me, and was resolved to go to *Loo* before he spoke to me, and he has promised to set out this Night. He tells me, he was not very inquisitive in the Design, since he was resolved not to be engaged: but when he is with you, he will do whatever is thought proper, and engage with them, who will be glad to receive him. His Expression to me was, that he desires the King would hang him, in case he did not seize the Men, Arms, and Horses; that these Men had no Estates, yet lived extreme well; that this *Richard Evans* had a Sister married to a *Dutchman* at *Amsterdam*; that *Grimes* was lately at *St. Germain's*, and returned to *England*. He is a *Scotchman*, but speaks *French* so well, that he is easily taken for a *Frenchman*. When I asked him where they intended to do it, he said a hunting, or in a Walk where the King often goes; they were desperate, and did not value their Lives; that they thought sometimes of stabbing him, &c. I hope I shall not be thought easily imposed on; but if so, I am sure it is erring on the right side. At least your Lordship will judge, if the Person does come to you; and in case he does not, it will have that good Effect, as to make you observe who comes near the King, for assure yourself, that there are numbers here that are capable of doing such an Action. I am the rather inclined to believe this, because there are but these four, and none of these were formerly in the same Design. I have given *Mr. Blathwayt* some Account of this Matter.

I had forgot to acquaint you, that they were never in such great hopes at *St. Germain's* as they are now, which I thought was upon the News we had here, that the King was not well: but it may be that this Design is the true Reason. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Mr. Lamberty in the first Volume of his Book, called, *Memoirs to serve for the History of the seventeenth Century*, has a very remarkable Passage, which these Letters shew to be ill founded; and as it does very much and very unjustly reflect on the Memory of the late Queen *Anne*, I have here translated it out of *French*, that so the Reader may compare it with these Letters.

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" The other singular Affair is, that the Duke of *Gloucester*, who was the
 " Hope of the *English*, coming unfortunately to die, the Princess *Anne* of
 " *Denmark* his Mother sent very clandestinely an Express to the Court of
 " *St. Germain's*, to notify his Death there. The Earl of *Manchester*, who
 " was Ambassador from *England* at *Paris*, and who watched that Court,
 " was advised of it. He dispatched his Secretary *Chetwynd* under other Pre-
 " tences for *Loo*, to inform the King of it. It was because such a sort of

" a step, so contrary to what the Princess *Anne* had always shewn, made it
" appear that she had ill Designs. We shall see it by a secret Writing, which
" was found when she was dead."

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 12. 1700.

I Have wrote fully to my Lord *Albemarle* about the Information I have received, from a Person unknown to me, of a Design against the King's Life: I must therefore refer you to his Lordship. The Person has promised to go for *Loo*, and will make it out. I have given him a Note for you, in case he should come before Mr. *Chetwynd*. He says he is a reformed Lieutenant in Colonel *Lee's* Regiment. I suppose you will keep Mr. *Chetwynd* no longer than there is occasion for, and if his Money should fall short, I desire you will let him have some, which I shall repay as you shall order it. I take this matter to be worth the Expence of an Express, tho' there should not be much in it. If the Person comes to you, as he has promised, you will better judge of it. I am willing to send as soon as I can, so have only time to assure you that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, August 12. 1700.

I Have the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 6th instant. Whether our bombarding will have a good Effect on the *Danes*, does not yet appear. Tho' the Damage be small, yet the Affront was great, and will convince them our Master is in earnest. I have no Opinion of the Project sent from *Paris*; for Mons. *de Chamilly*, who framed it with the King of *Denmark*, is so partial to that Interest, that nothing fair and equal can be expected from him; and since our Bombardment, the Count *de Briort* is also much come about that way: so that if the King their Master desires Peace so much, as your Excellency says he seems to do, his Ministers either are ill informed of his Intentions, for they act and talk as if they designed to obstruct it. My Secretary writes Mr. *Lewis* word of the King of *Poland's* having passed the *Duina* without Opposition. If he takes *Riga*, *Denmark* will be higher than ever, and it is to be feared will consent to no Peace this Summer.

The Reports of the King's Indisposition are groundless, and therefore must be maliciously spread. I had this Evening a Letter from Mr. *Blathwayt* from *Dieren*, which only mentions how indefatigable he is in hunting, and several Persons lately come thence confirm the same. My Secretary has prevented me from writing all the News we have. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 13. 1700.

I Have seen Mons. *de Torcy*, who took notice to me of our bombarding the *Danes*, but in a manner as if he was not surpris'd at it, saying however we ought to have some regard to the King of *Denmark*, since he was willing to enter into the Guaranty concerning the Succession of *Spain*. The Answer I made him was, that I had received no Orders, and that whatever I should say to him was of myself; that I thought he would agree with me, that the King of *Denmark's* Way of proceeding was only to gain time till the Summer was over, and that he might engage others in his Interest, which would make the War in the North last much longer than it was to be wished; that Mons. *de Chamilly's* own Letter did shew how difficult the King of *Denmark* was to consent to an Armistice, that when he did, it was in a manner different from what the Allies propos'd. All which he did not seem to dis-

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own. I said that I was afraid that, in regard to the Affairs concerning *Spain*, it was well if he did not amuse them in that, and he must allow there ought to be Measures kept with *Sweden*, &c. He said that *Monf. de Bonac* was there, and was not partial, as some think that *Monf. de Chamilly* is; so he hoped they would still come to some Agreement. He did not mention in the least the pretended Mediation of the King our Master, knowing very well what Answer I should have made him.

The Emperor's Envoy has received a Courier from *Spain*, whom he dispatched the same Day for *Vienna*. He assures me, that *Monf. Schonenberg* has had an Audience of the King of *Spain*, that *Don Quiros* has Orders to go to the *Hague*, and that they will take no further notice of the Affair of *Monf. de Canales*, but intend soon to name an Ambassador to the King. The only Measures they seem to have taken, is to put themselves in a Posture of Defence.

I hope *Mr. Chetwynd*, whom I sent away last Night, will be with you before this. In case he is not, I desire that you will take care that no unknown Persons come near the King, having been informed of a Design against His Person, and that those concerned in it are now at *Loo*. If the Person that gave me this Information comes to you, as he promised, you will soon find out the truth of it: if otherwise, I shall not know what to think, tho', by what I could judge of a sudden, he seemed more resolved to go than I was to have him go. He is a Catholick, and has served long in *France*. I think it not proper to make much Enquiry about him 'till I hear from you; for he pretends he asked leave of his superior Officer to go to see his Brother, who he told me was a Priest. This is of so great a Consequence, that I thought I ought rather to be credulous than otherwise. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

The Copy of a Letter to Mr. BLATHWAYT.

Hamburg, August 13. 1700.

YOUR Favour of the 10th instant from *Dieren* is just now come to my Hands, and I return you my Acknowledgments. I shall govern myself according to the Instructions you give me in His Majesty's Pleasure, and intend to go to the Camp to-morrow to see what they do there.

The *Lunenburghers* are busy with the *Danes* about their own particular Affairs, which do not a little perplex those of *Holstein*. I shall to-morrow find *Monf. Cranenberg* at the Army, and concert with him in all means conducing to a speedy Peace, which I know to be His Majesty's chief Aim, (with Submission) I presume it is much to be preferr'd before all Armistices, if it can be obtain'd; and I do not see *Denmark* in any Possibility of refusing to end the War, when *England* and *Holland* please. I have ever found the *French* Ministers very fond of being Umpires, or Arbitrators, in these Affairs, as well as all others; but methinks there may arise great Difficulties in the Arbitrage proposed, and I beg you will please to inform me, who is to name these Arbitrators, with a peaceable Submission to their Decision. I wish the letting in of *France* into these matters may bring them to a quicker and more happy Conclusion: but I own a weak Faith upon that Article. It is true *Denmark* lies under pretty hard Circumstances at present: but I am morally sure, that Court will never come to a fair Peace in any other Condition. Those who begin mischief, ought to suffer for it.

The *Danes* and *Saxons* seem inseparable, and if they escape with a slight Correction, for their late dangerous Conspiracy, they are not of a temper to leave things long in quiet. It is either now or never that this Quarrel must be cut off by the Root, and that the sooner the better, lest in a more troublesome time (which God prevent) the encroaching *Dane* take the advantage for

for oppressing the House of *Gottorf*, which lies as a rub in its way to the Gates of *Hamburg*.

Supposing that the Peace cannot be made immediately, as is to be desired (and which could not fail, if the *French* Concurrence to that end was sincere) I beg to be instructed in the point of fixing a Term: I mean, to what time His Majesty will think fit to have the Conferences limited. I shall carry *Monf. Cranenberg's* Orders with me to-morrow, and deliver them to himself. *Segeberg* is at such a distance from hence, that I can only take the Saturday for going thither, and return the Monday; for Tuesdays and Fridays I am most necessary here, in respect of all Orders, either to be received, or conveyed. Here is a Rumour of the Peace at *Segeberg's* being much advanced, but I doubt of the truth; however both the *Holstein*, as well as *Lunenbourg* Ministry, might be a little more communicative to their Friends of their Proceedings. I am almost worn out by having been their Postillion these four Years last past, and long for my Quietus, with my Royal Master's Leave and Approbation. I am not ignorant of my being marked in the *Danish* black Book, but having wherewithall to justify my Conduct, both in Regard to His Majesty's Honour, in Obedience to his Orders, as also with a constant Affection to the Glory and Interest of my beloved Country; I despise the little invisible Darts of Malice, wherewith mean Spirits endeavour to wound my Reputation. It would be a real Mortification to me, if so many Years Service, in troublesome Stations, should at last be ill represented, and gain Credit. My Comfort is in myself, who doing my Duty, and neglecting Fortune, enjoy at least one great Blessing, which is Peace of Mind.

Lieutenant-General *Welling* tells me this Day, that *Monf. Bencling*, the *Saxon* Minister, is again ordered by the King of *Poland* to come to *Hamburg*.

Just as I was going to finish this Letter, I understand that the King of *Denmark* has left *Gluckstadt*, and is gone towards *Rendsburg*; it will be difficult for His Majesty to reach *Copenhagen*, as things now are in *Zealand*, and I do not believe he thinks of going thither.

There has this Day passed an Express for *France* from Count *Guiscard*; and Count *Chamilly* has likewise dispatched a Gentleman of his Family express to the *French* King from *Gluckstadt* last Night. I shall not pretend to decide whether Peace or War in the North be most to the *French* Advantage, but they seldom mistake their true Interest.

My Lord,

Your Excellency sees here my naked Thoughts, just as I send them this Day to His Majesty; the *Danes* are odd Blades when People come to know them. I shall only add my Acknowledgments for your Excellency's Favour of the 6th instant, which I received but this moment, and always am with respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, August 14. 1700.

I Mentioned to you that the *Dutch* Ambassador had a Case of the same nature as that of the *William and Jane*. I have inclosed to you the Answer he has received. You must know he applied to *Monf. de Ponchartrain*, in hopes to have had better Success, which I have never done, since I knew it was what *Monf. de Torcy* does not like; besides, his Character here is such, that there is no doing any thing with him, and you will perceive matters are so concerted, that he would not speak to him. He says as much in this Answer to *Monf. de Torcy*, which is grounded upon the same Topick with mine. I have nevertheless given in a Memorial concerning the *St. George*, and cannot tell whether it is proper to press for an Answer (which I perceive is like to be the same) 'till I hear what our *African* Company will do, and I hope they will consider well, and support their Resolution, when once taken;

taken, and according to the Orders I shall receive, I will assist them. I must desire your opinion, and ask what I may do without incurring the Penalties of the Laws in *England*. The Pope's Nuncio, who was Vice-Legate at *Avignon*, where he has been extream serviceable to *Monf. de Lubieres* Governor of *Orange*, is here, and seems mighty desirous that we should be well together. I have met him often, but I should be glad if, with Safety, I might invite him sometimes to my House. Not that I mean to visit him in Ceremony, nor he to return it. The last Nuncio did often dine with the *Dutch* Ambassador, and I believe it may be of some Service, if proper, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER:

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lisbon, Aug. 15. 1700.

I Am honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 11th of *July*, and received inclosed in it, one from my Lord *Jersey*, which brought me the first News I had from *England* of the Treaty of Repartition, with Orders to notify it to the King of *Portugal*, which I did on the 13th instant. I shall not fail to obey your Excellency's Commands, the first time I wait on the Queen Dowager; her Majesty lives at present very privately at a Place called *Belem*, three Miles distant from hence.

This goes by a Courier, which the *French* Ambassador sends to give his Master an account, that he has concluded a Treaty of Guaranty with this Court, by which the King of *Portugal* is obliged to maintain the late Treaty of Repartition, and the Execution of it; and I take the liberty of sending the inclosed under your Excellency's Cover, and to desire that they may be forwarded by the first Opportunity. I am, &c.

My Lord,

August 18. 1700.

I have been forced to break open my Letters, to acquaint your Lordship that the *French* Ambassador told me positively he had signed the Treaty the 15th; yet he did not, having observed, just as he was going to sign, that the *Portuguese* had in one of the Articles inserted a Clause, by which they might afterwards pretend that they were not obliged to make War on the Emperor or *Spain*, until they began it. This occasioned a Dispute between the Ambassador and the *Portuguese* Commissioners, but all was at last accommodated to the Satisfaction of the Ambassador, and the Treaty signed this Evening. I am, &c.

PAUL METHUEN.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 16. 1700.

I Acquainted you in mine of the 13th, that the Night before I had dispatched Mr. *Chetwynd* for *Loo*. I received yesterday a Letter from him, from *Valenciennes*, with advice that the Governor there had stopp'd him, and put him under a Guard, tho' he shew'd him my Pass, where his Name was inserted, and where he was going. I acquainted *Monf. de Torcy* of this by a Letter, and I have inclosed the Answer, with one he sent me for *Monf. Magellotti* (Governor of *Valenciennes*) and the Pass which he pretends all Expresses must take, tho' for my part I say this is the first time I have heard of it, and as often as I have sent to *England*, they never before have offered this Affront. I shall see *Monf. de Torcy* to-morrow, and then know further what this Proceeding means. I think it ought to be taken notice of to *Monf. de Tallard*. Besides that it infringes the Right all publick Ministers have, it will be very inconvenient; and if I learn any thing, which requires haste, I must be obliged to send to *Versailles* or *Marly*, where it may often happen that

that *Monf. de Torcy* is not to be spoke with. I wish the Person that assured me he would set out the same Night has not met with the same Fate.

Yesterday Morning they had an Express at *St. Germain's* from *England*, with News that the Duke of *Gloucester* is dead. I fear it is too true. My Letters are not yet come.

I must own to you that I am under all the Concern imaginable for the King, having been informed by several, that very dark Expressions are used by considerable People at *St. Germain's*, as that in a little while we shall hear of something of Consequence, that will make for them, that the King cannot live a Month, that his Body is swelled; and the extraordinary Joy they seem to be in, gives me suspicion that there is some Design against his Person, and makes me the easier give credit to what I have acquainted you with by Mr. *Chetwynd*. I have not heard from you for some time, and I shall be uneasy 'till I do. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, August 5. 1700. O.S.

I Received yesterday your Excellency's Letter of the 11th instant. That the *Spaniards* are so obliging of late, does not proceed from His Majesty's having writ to them, but I rather think they are endeavouring to create Jealousies and Suspicions between us and *France*, and that they have a mind to have a Minister here next Winter, to blow the Coals in Parliament, if he can, and to persuade People to find fault with the Treaty about the Succession to their Dominions: but I suppose we shall be very well contented, that the Peace of *Europe* may be preserved upon these Terms.

The Report of the Queen of *Spain's* being with child; I conceive is the more cherished, that it may give the Emperor a pretence for returning no answer whether he will come into the late Treaty, or not; the three Months proposed for his declaring himself are now near expired, and we hear nothing more from *Vienna*, but that a certain Courier they expect from *Madrid* is not yet arrived. In the mean time, we hear the *French* Squadrons under the command of *Nesmont* and *Pointi* are like to join. One would be glad to know what they are designed for. It is said they will winter at *Cadiz*, if they do not make themselves masters of *Gibraltar*.

Mr. *Stanhope* writes me word, that a Project was come from *Paris* for settling the Northern Affairs. He has not seen it. I hope it is such as will be accepted of, or that they will suffer it to be so modell'd as to meet with a general Approbation. People wish here that the Bombardment had been let alone. We are all desirous of Peace, and don't care to hear of any thing that is like to obstruct it. The Positiveness of the *Danes* in slighting the Proposals for an Accommodation has put Sir *George Rook* under great difficulties. If he had done nothing while the other trifled away time, it must have brought a contempt upon the Guarantees; and therefore it is hard to censure him for shewing, as he told them, that they were not sent thither with a mock Assistance. Every body will be glad that no harm has been done, if it be fairly intended on both sides that none shall be done for the future.

I thank you for the care you intend to take of *Brocard*. I hope it shall be no inconvenience to you, for I expect to hear from Mr. *Blathwayt*, that the King will order Money for the payments that went through Lord *Jersey's* hands; and when the Treasury meets again, I'll give you all the Assistance I am able.

We hear of two or three Frigates that are going from the Coast of *France* to the Coast of *Africa*. I hope they have not Orders to execute what the *Senegal* Company shall direct them. If they are to support all the Company pretends to by chimerical Concessions from I know not what

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Black Kings ; we shall hear of nothing but Rapine committed on our Ships, and People will conclude we have no Peace on the Coast of *Africa*, whatever it is in other parts.

We have very little News at present, after having had too much last Week. The Prince and Princess are as well as can be expected under their great Affliction. The Duke's Body was brought up last Thursday night by my Lord *Marlborough* and Mr. *Sayers*, and is deposited in the Prince's Chamber at *Westminster*.

I was afraid I should have lost my Son, who fell ill the same Morning the Duke died, but I think he is now out of danger. My Lord Chamberlain goes for *Holland* on Thursday next. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neustadt, August 17. 1700.

I Make use of the Opportunity of a Courier, which the Marquis *de Villars* dispatches to Court, to return your Excellency my most humble thanks for the honour of your Letter of the 30th past, which I received by last Post. I am sorry at the same time to acquaint your Excellency, that the Resolution we have so long expected from the Emperor, in relation to the Treaty for regulating the Succession of *Spain*, is not such as was desired. Count *Harrach* has to-day acquainted the M. *de Villars*, and Mons. *Hop*, separately, that he was commanded by the Emperor to impart to them, for their Masters information, That his Imperial Majesty, considering the King of *Spain* to be in good health, and of such an Age, that he might very well, with the blessing of God, hope for Issue of his own, did not think it becoming, especially him that was his Uncle, to make a division of his Succession. He added to the M. *de Villars*, that the Emperor hoped this Answer would not interrupt the good Intelligence between himself and his most Christian Majesty ; and that he would not proceed to the nomination of a third, which would but embroil matters the more : That when the Succession happened to fall, the Emperor thought it justly belonged to him ; and after the extinction of the Male-Line of the House of *Austria*, to the Duke of *Savoy*, according to *Philip* the IVth's Will. He told Mons. *Hop* also, that the Emperor desired to continue in a good Understanding with the King and the States-General. I cannot see Count *Harrach* to-night, but shall doubtless receive the same Answer from him to-morrow. If there be any thing different in it, I will acquaint your Lordship with it by the first Opportunity. Your Excellency is much abler than I am, to judge of the Consequences of the Emperor's Resolution. He certainly reckons upon the Friendship of the *Spanish* Court : but altho' he be sure of it, I cannot see how it will answer the Expectation he may have of it, or what other means he has to hinder the performance of the Agreement already made.

The Elector and Electores's *Palatine* arrived here last night. I am, &c.

R. SUTTON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Bern, August 17. 1700.

I Had the honour to write you word in my last, amongst other things, that the *Swiss* would probably call a Diet expressly to deliberate about the Guaranty into which we have invited them to enter. It is now fixed for the end of this Month, and to prevent the long Deliberations usual in this Country, M. *de Puyseux* thought it necessary to explain himself clearly, as he has had Orders to do, in regard to what is understood by the Guaranty.

He

He sends me word, the 14th of this Month, N. S. that he would write to the Canton of *Zurich* to communicate to all the others, before they should send their Deputies to the Diet; that the Guaranty consisted in two Points, or Propositions: The first is the stopping of their Passages, in case the Execution of the Treaty should be opposed when the Time shall come. The other is to give as many Troops as they can to the Allied Powers, for their Money. I believe, my Lord, that the first Proposition will meet with little or no difficulty; for there is no likelihood that the Cantons will give the Imperial Troops leave to pass thorough their Country. They have not forgot that the Emperor does still pretend the Rights of Sovereignty over *Switzerland*. As to the giving Troops, they would know (and agree on that Point) how much for each Soldier: and *France* has at present that difficulty with the Canton of *Bern*, which having in the Year 1672, granted a Regiment of 2400 Men, on Conditions, which, they say, were not comply'd with, (especially about the payment) will be inflexible on this Conjunction, especially since the Orders of *Monf. de Puyfieux* are to fix the payment for all the *Swisses* in the Service of the King his Master (excepting the Guards of that Nation) at sixteen Livres, as the Money shall be worth in his Kingdom. He has already made this Proposal at two Diet. The Canton of *Bern* is the only one that has not consented to it, and it is by much the most considerable Canton. It is likely that *Mr. Valkenier* and I shall both be at the next Diet. He is at present with the *Grisons*, where he will find the Affairs difficult; for you know that those Confederates depend (whatever Pensioners *France* may have there) intirely upon the House of *Austria*. The *Spanish* Ambassador has a very great Credit there; and as they have all that is necessary for Life, from the *Tyrol*, and the *Milanese*, we shall find it very difficult to make them understand Reason about what we hope from them. I am, &c.

D'HERVAERT.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, August 18. 1700.

YOU may easily imagine the great Concern I was under when I received your's of the first instant, that being the Confirmation of what I had heard before from *St. Germain*s, they having had Expresses both by the way of *Rouen* and *Calais*; the latter was sent by *Pigault*, a Merchant there. I desire the favour of you, as you think it proper, or have an Opportunity, to express my great Sense of the Loss, to their Royal Highnesses.

I suppose I shall soon have Orders how I am to act, which I fear, if from *Loo*, will not be so full as I could wish. First, if my Coaches and Servants must be in mourning, in what manner I must notify the Duke of *Gloucester*'s death, whether in a private Audience of the King, or publickly of the whole Court. If so, I must have Letters to them, as I had at my first coming. I am told for certain, that the Court of *St. Germain*s will go into mourning, and they are already preparing. I need not tell you how pleased they are, and confident of being soon in *England*. There was to have been a great Hunting on the Plains of *St. Dennis* for the P. Prince of *Wales*, in order that the *English* here might have seen him: but after this melancholy News, it was thought more decent to put it off. Here are great numbers of *English*, and it is observed at *St. Germain*s, that they see every day new Faces, who come to make their Court there. There are few of note that go: but I find that there are some that come to me, and go there also. I am told that Sir *Henry Johnson*, the Ship-builder, is there now *incognito*, and goes soon for *England*. I have heard often that he corresponds with them, and that he allowed to several a certain Sum a Year to be in a readiness whenever there shall be occasion. *Vavasour*, whom I

mentioned, did say the same thing. I believe you may find out whether he has been missing. I wish I could inform you more particularly: but it is not possible for me to do it. When Men act in this manner, they take care not to be discovered.

The late King has increased his Family, and it is said that the *French* King allows the P. Prince of *Wales* twenty thousand Pistoles for his Education, and that he is to go this Year to *Fontainebleau*. *Hanford*, *Hare*, and *Holmes*, that were in the Proclamation, are gone from *Paris*; but I cannot tell whither.

Seven Thousand Medals of the pretended Prince of *Wales* are to be stamp'd by *Rotier*, who is here, and sent to Captain *Cheney*, who formerly lived in *Hackney*, but is now in some part of *Kent*. I was yesterday at *Versailles*, where the King asked me privately, if the News of the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death was true.

I found by *Monf. de Torcy*, that they began to be alarmed here at the Descent of the *Swedes* near *Elfsingor*, consisting of Five Thousand Foot and Six Thousand Horse, and that the King is there in person; saying, that tho' our Intentions were only to procure a Peace, yet when the *Swedes* had got such a Footing, it would not be in our power to hinder them from being Masters of *Denmark*, at least for some considerable time; that he believed that they would soon take *Copenhagen*. When I took notice to him of the Proceedings of the King of *Poland*, and that the King of *Denmark* was not inclined to come to any Treaty, and that I thought, that if *France* would dispose him to it, it might have a good Effect; he then sent for a Proposal, which he had just received from *Monf. de Chamilly*, signed by Count *Reventlau*, &c. where the King of *Denmark* consents to sign the Guaranty concerning *Spain*, that he agrees to a Cessation of Arms, and to begin the Conferences, in order to adjust the whole Matter; and in case it is not done, within such a time as is to be fixed, he then submits to the final Determination of the Kings of *England* and *France*, and the States. He also desires the *French* King will use his good Offices to persuade the King our Master to accept it. This, as well as I can remember, was the purport of this Paper. I had not then received Mr. *Cresset's* Letter of the 9th instant, where I find that the *Swedes* landed the 4th, which I suppose made the King of *Denmark* think that it was high time to make some Proposals of this nature. This Proposal was given to the *French* Ambassador, and I believe the Allies know nothing of it, because Mr. *Cresset* takes no notice of it. *Monf. de Torcy* complains also, that the Allies still insist that the Ninth Electorate shall be included in the Treaty. This they do not like in the least. I suppose I shall soon hear what Measures the King will take on this Occasion. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 20. 1700.

AS soon as I saw *Monf. de Torcy*, he began with making all the Excuses that were possible, for what had passed in relation to Mr. *Chetwynd*, and he takes the whole Fault on himself. When I complained, I said that I did not believe that the King had given any such Orders as to stop my Secretary, &c. he did own, that when *Monf. Magellotti* went away, he told him, by Order, that he was not to let any Courier pass, without having his Note to the Post-Master, as there is the same Order sent to all the parts of *France*. He said that he ought to have given me notice; that as this concerned all publick Ministers, it would not look well to except any particular one. And then he entered into the Reasons, saying that at this Juncture it was necessary to know what Couriers were sent to *Vienna* and *Spain*. I did not well know what to say when he turned it in this manner, laying all the Fault upon himself; he said he hoped I would have the Goodness to excuse him, that it should be made easy to me, &c. When I see him next, I will endeavour to settle it:

it: but I fear it will be hard to do; for the truth of all this is, that this Court will know the Name of him that goes, the Road, and the Time they set out, that so they may take what Measures they think proper. This, as it may happen, may be very inconvenient. I cannot tell but it is proper to take notice of it to *Monf. de Tallard*. I do not believe he would like to be served so. If *Monf. de Torcy* will leave me some blank Passes, it might do; but I do not think he will. He did say there should be some at the Post-Master's at *Paris*, whenever I had occasion to send; and when he had none, he should have Orders to send for them: which last will, I fear, be always the Case; since by this means they will have time to enquire, who is the Person I intend to send, &c. and at *St. Germain*s they will have notice also. I desire to know what His Majesty thinks of this matter, and what he would have me do. I have had the melancholy News of the Death of the Duke of *Gloucester*. I suppose I shall have Orders to notify it to this Court, and in what manner it is to be done, whether my Coaches and Livery are to be put into Mourning, and if I am to ask publick Audiences, and deliver Letters to all the Royal Family. If so, you will send me Copies of the Letters, that so I may frame my Discourse accordingly. I desire you will be full in your Directions, for I doubt that, as he was Heir presumptive, the Mourning will be the deeper.

In the Conference I had with *Monf. de Torcy*, he told me what had passed at the Audience, which the *Spanish* Ambassador had some days ago. The Substance of it was to dissuade the King from proceeding any farther in the Treaty concerning the Succession. He said that the King his Master was like to live a long time, that his Health was better than ever it was, that he had named no Person to succeed him, nor would he. This King answered, that no body wished more for his Master's Health than himself, that all Men are mortal, that he had no other Design in what he had done, but the Peace of *Europe*. The *Spanish* Ambassador discoursed afterwards with *Monf. de Torcy*, who took notice to him, that the Resolutions that were taken in *Spain*, about suppressing all Pensions, were in order to maintain a considerable number of Forces, which might create Jealousies, especially if they were foreign Troops. To which he answered, that they had been long enough the Jest of *Europe*, by having their Affairs in so ill a Condition, that every Man was Master in his own Country, &c. I find by *Monf. de Torcy*, that the *French* are apprehensive that the Emperor's Troops are to go to *Milan* and *Naples*, and he said it had been already proposed to the Republick of *Venice* to pass Twenty Thousand Men thorough their Territories; and if so, he thought it would be necessary that the *French* Troops, that are near *Catalonia*, should have Orders to march to the Frontiers of *Spain*; not that he believed there would be any occasion of proceeding further, but that this would be sufficient to hinder the *Germans* from going into *Italy*. This he desired the King should know. I am satisfied that there is something of this nature in hand, by what *Monf. Zinzendorf* lets fall sometimes in his Discourses. *Monf. de Torcy* said, that they intended to press for the Emperor's Answer concerning the Treaty, and that it would be convenient we should do it also. Then he took notice to me of the Descent, which the King of *Sweden* had made in *Denmark*; that he did not know but they might take *Copenhagen*, and then they would be Masters of the whole Kingdom, and it might not be in our power to help *Denmark*, if we would; that there had been a Conference, where none of the Ministers of *France* were present, and they did believe that *Mr. Cresset* was there. This gives them some Suspicion here. I told him I had not received any Accounts, and so could say nothing to it: but that I believed all this was done in order to dispose the King of *Denmark*, who had not shewed much Inclination hitherto, to accommodate the Differences between him and the Duke of *Holstein*. Upon which he read me a Paper signed by Count *Reventlau* and others, and which is another Answer to *Monf. de Chamilly*, whereby the King of *Denmark* declares that he is ready to sign the Guaranty of the Treaty about *Spain*. And as to the Affairs of *Holstein*, he desires the

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French King to propose a Treaty; and he does consent, that whatever Points cannot be agreed to upon the Place, shall be left to the Arbitration of the Kings of *England* and *France*, and of the States-General; that in the mean time a Cessation of Arms be agreed on, and with this Condition, that whatever is determined by the Arbitrators, they shall have a Right to oblige them to it, that do not accept of it. I suppose *Monf. de Tallard* will have proposed this matter. I did not desire a Copy of it, for I will not engage myself in any thing of this nature, but by Order. *Monf. de Torcy* made use of this Paper, as an Argument to prove that the King of *Denmark* was well disposed, and that his Condition was now to be pitied; besides that, he was the only one that came heartily into the Treaty about *Spain*, and it is not very hard to guess the Reason of it: yet the *French* Ministers have wrote to this Court, that in the Conference, where they were not present, the King of *Denmark* had agreed to acknowledge the Ninth Electorate, and that he was to have better Terms on that Condition. I have since received a Letter from Mr. *Cresset*, and he mentions nothing of it. It is certain that they believe it here, and it does not please them; which is not much matter, provided it does procure a Peace there. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, August 20. 1700.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 6th and 13th instant, and I cannot but admire that the *Danes* should persuade any Persons to believe they act sincerely, or that we have done otherwise than we are obliged to do in prudence, and as Guarantees of the Treaty of *Altena*. Your Lordship has very well observed that the *Danes* have continually shuffled off the Armistice, and have every where refused to come to any reasonable Composition. Their Spirit is seen in the *Paris* Gazette, of which I send you an Extract with short Annotations, of which I send undeniable Proofs from what passed, as well before our entering the *Sound*, as afterwards, which is intended for your Lordship's Entertainment; and to enable you to gainsay such as would discredit our Proceedings, and may think we were at the Charge of sending a Fleet so far to be trifled with. But this vigorous Proceeding, or *Iniquitude Angloise*, as it was called at the *Hague* by some Friends of the *Danes*, will produce, I doubt not, and that immediately too, an honourable Peace to us and our Allies, attended with the Reputation of His Majesty's being a strict Observer of His Treaties: And so much for that where I would keep our own.

Your Lordship's Letter of the 13th came to my hands the day before yesterday, and it was immediately laid before the King. Just now arrives Mr. *Chetwynd*, having been stopp'd, as your Lordship knows, by the way. He has delivered me your Letter of the 12th, which wholly refers to the Information given my Lord *Albemarle*, from whom your Lordship may hear perhaps by this Post. Your Lordship's great Care is very much to be commended in a Matter of so high an importance.

Sir *George Rook* writes me in his Letter of the 30th past, that the *Swedes* were going to besiege *Copenhagen*; but there is no doubt the Conclusion of the Treaty at *Segeberg*, which we are to hope for within a few Hours, will put an end to those Exploits.

As to your Lordship's Mourning upon the late sad Occasion, His Majesty thinks it enough, that your Lordship, and such Gentlemen, as attend near your Person, do put on close Mourning for three Months. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Segeberg, August 20. 1700.

I Am confident your Excellency will be pleased, as well as I have been, when you hear that our Peace was signed last Wednesday Night between nine and ten a-clock, at a House of the Duke of *Holstein's*, called *Travendale*, near both Camps. The Ratifications will be exchanged in a few Days, and I hope to hang up my Inkhorn. The Interest of Protestantism is greatly secured by this Calm in the *Lower Saxony*. The Artifices of new Mediations, and tedious Armistices, are confounded by a clear and fair Peace, highly to the King our Master's Honour, as well as to the Glory of our beloved Country. *Denmark* is entirely taken off, at the same time, from its inveterate Opposition against the Ninth Electorate, and Primogeniture in the House of *Hanover*, which is a great Point, and in which *England* is deeply concerned, by a special Guaranty. All Curiosity must now be turned towards *Livonia*, where the King of *Poland* begins now to act vigorously; tho' that War must likewise soon fall, unless fomented by foreign Money, for *Saxony* is already drained. I wish some People (not unknown to your Excellency) do not intrigue for the Continuation of these Troubles against *Sweden*. For the Events of the War in *Livonia*, that your Excellency will be best informed of by Mr. *Plantamour* at *Berlin*; for our Intelligence here of those Matters is but uncertain, and comes late. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, August 22. 1700.

I Have already acquainted your Lordship with Mr. *Chetwynd's* being come hither, but no News of any body else, nor any likelihood of it now, the Person being fully satisfied with the Pistoles he got. Those Tricks are very common with us, and yet we cannot have too much Attention to such Advices, whatever the Issue be. Mr. *Chetwynd* will be dispatched, I believe, to-morrow by the King, and then your Excellency will have his Majesty's Orders concerning *Magalotti's* Treatment of him at *Valenciennes*, which cannot be justified towards your Excellency, or any belonging to you: but of this I shall say more upon Mr. *Chetwynd's* Return.

Now I have the Satisfaction to acquaint your Excellency that the Peace in the North is certainly made, as we understood by an Express come from Mr. *Cresset* last Night, who brought us the Treaty at length in *High Dutch*, and whereof I have inclosed an Extract of all the material Parts, for your Lordship's Information. Sir *George Rook* will be soon going home, after having seen the *Swedes* well back into *Schonen*, and then the Expedition will be happily ended, and gloriously for the King and the States. And I hope every body else will like what is done, as they have reason.

Your Lordship will have found the News of the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death too true. His Majesty thinks that Mourning for your Person, and such as are near you, out of Livery, for three Months, is all that need be on this melancholy Occasion. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 23. 1700.

I Hope Mr. *Chetwynd* is with you at last, and I cannot but be very uneasy 'till I hear what becomes of that Matter; for upon inquiring who left *St. Germain's* lately, I find one *William Davison*, formerly a Captain in the *Scotch Guards*; he married one Mrs. *Harris*, who lives at present in *York-Buildings*.

Buildings. He has often owned to have proposed at *St. Germain*s to assassinate the King. He is a Convert, and an intimate Acquaintance with *William Grimes*, who is said to be the Chief in this Design, and is thought to be the same Person that was an Officer under *Dundee*, and afterwards Commander of the *Bass* in *Scotland*. Here is also one *Peter Grimes*, and his Cousin of the same Name. I am told that he said to one, that the King would not live three Weeks; and when he answered him he was perfectly recovered of his late Illness, he said, I do not mean that he will die by any Distemper, and so the Discourse fell. I suppose you have not my Cypher, else I should write more fully to you. I know not what is the Reason that your Letters are always eight days a coming. I have not acquainted Mr. Secretary *Vernon* of this matter, being unwilling to alarm them in *England* till there is occasion. It has been said here, and the News is come from *St. Germain*s, that Lord *Portland* is killed; but no Letters mentioning any thing of it, it is no longer believed. I desire you will acquaint my Lord *Albemarle* with what I write, and pray let me hear often of the King's Health. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Letter to Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Hamburg, August 24. 1700.

I Am to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favours of the 18th instant, delivered to me by Captain *Guy* last Sunday Night. He rested himself yesterday here with me, and is gone early this Morning towards the Fleet, by the way of *Denmark*, which (I presume) is now free and open for him.

I herewith inclose the Copy of an Act, as it was signed (*sub spe Ratificationis*) by *Monf. de Cranenberg* and myself, as well as the *Lunenburghers*, without which the Peace had not been concluded in the manner it was: for *Sweden* insisted positively to have *Denmark* renounce in the Treaty, by express Terms, its Engagements with the King of *Poland*; to which the *Danes* would never have been induced by a publick Article. The only Expedient, we could think of, is what you see, that the Peace might not be obstructed, and I hope it will meet with His Majesty's Royal Approbation. Which way the King of *Sweden* will be able to get Satisfaction from the King of *Poland*, for the notorious wrong done him, is now every body's Curiosity.

If that *Polander's* Teeth are not drawn, he will be always dangerous, being ready to fly upon any thing that comes in his way, and *France* may make good use of him some time or other.

I find the *Lunenburg* Ministers spoke like Prophets of the Conclusion of the Peace, before the time. The truth is, that having dexterously made their own separate, they knew best what facility they could bring to sacrifice the poor *Holstein* Matters afterwards. I must do this justice to truth, that the Treaty of *Travendale* would have been as ambiguous to the full, as that of *Altena*, if two of us (I am sorry I cannot say three) had not stickled the last four Days for the better Explication of the Unions, the Communion, and the chief Point the *Jus Armorum*, all which (tho' the *Lunenburghers* were pleased) I found in very trimming oraculous Expressions at my Arrival at *Travendale*. There is no changing the Duke of *Holstein Gottorf's* unlucky Situation, but by putting his undoubted Right into its true Light. Whenever the *Danish* Aggression begins again, it will at least be more evident than formerly, and less disputable. The *Danes* threaten already, even before the Ratification, and particularly, as I am assured, big Words are let fall, of what use they pretend to make in an *English* Parliament next Winter.

The *French* Ministers, you know, vanished before we came to the Signature; Count *d'Eck* came two days after it to *Segeberg*, but is highly satisfied, since

since his Rival Count *Chamilly* had no better Success. The *Lunenburghers* bore very hard upon the Elector of *Brandenburg* at the end of our Controversations, and would have excluded him from being any way mentioned in the Treaty, as having been Mediator. I thought that very hard to refuse a little historical Honour to so great a Prince, a Protestant, and so near a Relation to His Majesty. Besides, of the three old Mediators, none but the Elector of *Brandenburg* continued his Office to the end. I therefore thought it but just to support *Monf. Bush* as well as I could in that Attack, and to have his Master named as Mediator. Tho' the Counsels of *Berlin* have been bad, they may mend and grow better hereafter.

Beginning now to be a little more at leisure, I have thought it not improper to undertake the Correction of an impertinent Gazetteer, for writing such scandalous things, as I herewith send you in their Extracts. The Business of the *English* Flag is, methinks, of a little too much Importance to be trifled withal by such Blades.

You have likewise a Copy of that Order of Council you desire about Passes for Ships homewards bound from the North.

The *French* Ambassador Count *Chamilly* desired to speak with me and *Monf. Cranenberg* yesterday. His Business was to communicate to us the Form of a Project for entering the King of *Denmark* into the Treaty for the *Spanish* Succession. He told us it was a thing concerted with His Majesty and the States, and that doubtless we had already Orders upon it. I assured him to the contrary; but promised to write by this Post, as I now do, to desire to be instructed in His Majesty's Pleasure concerning the said matter.

When I left the Allies Army lately, I passed thorough that of the *Danes*, to see the Duke of *Wirtemberg*. I remember he then told me, amongst other things, that the King of *Denmark* repented his having leap'd so hastily into the above mention'd Guaranty.

My Lord,

Your Excellency has above written a Copy of the Dispatch to *Mr. Blathwayt*. I am to return my Acknowledgments for your Favour of the 24th, received this Moment. Your Excellency can never fail in that you observe of following Orders, and trusting as little to Strangers as possible. The *French* Ministers might have assisted to the end, if they had pleased to do so, upon the foot of *bons Offices*; but since they could not trip up the Heels of the old Mediation, they went off in a pett. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, August 24. 1700.

MR. *Chetwynd* being on his Return to *Paris*, I am to acquaint your Lordship that I have laid before the King all the Particulars of his being stopp'd and arrested at *Valenciennes*, according to your Lordship's Letter, and his own Information; which, with some Remarks I have added, is now sent your Excellency, with the Signification of His Majesty's Pleasure, that your Excellency do make complaint of the Affront to *Monf. de Torcy*, as a breach of the Privilege of foreign Ministers, and contrary to the Law of Nations, since whatever Orders may have been made in *France* for the furnishing of Horses and Relais (which ought to have been notified to your Excellency, as well as others) it is most certain the Governor of *Valenciennes* should have rather civilly excused the stopping your Lordship's Secretary, for want of necessary Order, and not have put his Person under guard, and forced him from his own Lodgings to the Guard-House, detaining him there, and using him ill, after he had presented himself of his own accord to the Governor, and produced a formal Pass from your Excellency, mentioning the occasion of his Journey, on the King our Master's particular Service, for which His Majesty

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does not doubt but the *French* will give us Satisfaction, or expect to have their Couriers and Ambassadors Servants used just in the same manner in *England*. Your Lordship will be able to enlarge further on this Incident with Mr. *Torcy*, if it be necessary, and have upon Mr. *Chetwynd's* Arrival a living Proof with you, to verify your Allegations, which the *French* can by no means justify.

We are very sensible, my Lord, there are always Designs on foot against His Majesty's Person by ill Men, who would therefore blind and amuse us with false Informations, as those may have been your Lordship lately received, since the Informer has given no further Account of himself. The like Delusion has just now happened to Mr. *Stanhope* from the famous Inventor of Stratagems Mr. *Fuller*, who after divers Suggestions of the same nature, and cheating several Persons at *Rotterdam*, is again vanish'd. However, my Lord, too great Caution cannot be used, I say, where His Majesty's Person is concerned, and His Majesty does very much approve of your Excellency's great Care on this Occasion.

We have no further News from the North, since that of the Peace being concluded between *Denmark*, the Duke of *Holstein*, and the *Lunenburghers*, to His Majesty's great Honour, and Satisfaction to all good Protestants. We are now expecting the King of *Sweden's* Return home with his Army and Fleet, when our Squadron will be of no farther use in those Parts. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, August 26. 1700.

I Am obliged to you for yours of the 9th, wherein you give me an account of the *Swedes* having made a Descent near *Elfsingor*. It does a little surprise this Court, and tho' they would be glad if they could assist the King of *Denmark*, yet they have such Measures to keep with the King our Master, that I am of opinion they will not act otherwise than he shall like. I must tell you that the *French* Ministers with you have given Advices here, that there has lately been a Conference, whereat they were not present, and that the King of *Denmark* had consented to own the Ninth Electorate, and that on that Condition he was to have better Terms. This they do not like here, and besides they suspect to be left out in the Accommodation. It would not be much matter, provided things were quiet in your Parts. Monf. *de Torcy* did mention something of this to me, and asked if you were not at this Conference. I told him that I had heard nothing of it. He shewed me a Paper signed by Count *Reventlau* and others, which is a second Answer to Monf. *de Chamilly*, whereby the King of *Denmark* offers to sign the Guaranty concerning *Spain*, and desires that the King our Master, *France*, and the States-General, would be the Arbitrators in all the Points that cannot be settled, where you are. I am sensible that there have been so many Tricks plaid in this Affair, that I do not doubt but you will act, as you have done, strictly to your own Orders. I do assure you I begin to suspect every thing that I do not hear from you. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To my LORD CHAMBERLAIN.

My Lord,

Paris, August 27. 1700.

I Thought the surest way of your having the inclosed was by my sending it to *Loo*. Monf. *Schonenberg* desired it might be sent with all expedition. So I hope it will find your Lordship there. I need not repeat the Request I made you when in *England*. I shall only tell you that the P. Prince of *Wales* is to be at *Fontainebleau* for the first time, and an Apartment is preparing for him.

Monf.

Monf. *de Torcy* acquainted me yesterday with the Answer the Emperor has given to Monf. *de Villars*. He refuses to enter into any Treaty concerning the Succession of *Spain*, as long as the King of *Spain* lives, and hopes they will not proceed to the naming of another Prince, which may have ill Consequences, and oblige him to take Measures to defend his Right. He said, had he seen me in the Morning, he should have complained very much of the Coolness and Indifference they shewed in *Holland* in this Affair: that tho' Monf. *de Tallard* did assure them the Emperor had concerted with *Spain*, that his Troops were to march into *Italy*; yet it was not thought fit to take any Measures to prevent it: but that by the Letter he just then received from Monf. *de Tallard*, he sees and tells me that the King our Master does agree, that both in *Spain* and *Vienna* their Ministers shall have Orders to declare against it. This Court does intend to press the Duke of *Savoy* to enter into a Treaty with *France*, if he is not already engaged with the Emperor. It cannot be his Interest to have the *German* Troops so near him, and in case he refuses *France*, it will be a Demonstration that he is acting otherwise than he has assured them. I cannot avoid taking notice to you, that Monf. *de Torcy* has spoke to me concerning Count *Bosselli*, and told me how that matter did pass, and that the *French* King could not set him at liberty, unless the King our Master approved of it. That upon what my Lord *Portland* had said to Monf. *de Tallard*, he was put in Prison; that Monf. *de Villars* had inquired at *Vienna* into the matter he was accused of, but could not find there was any thing in it; that he (Monf. *de Torcy*) was pressed by the Wife and Children of *Bosselli* to speak to me. The Answer I made him was, that I had no Orders about it, and that I thought that Monf. *de Tallard* ought to speak to my Lord *Portland*. He said, that was not proper, for the *French* King would not concern himself, since it related only to the King my Master. I have prevented these Relations coming to my House; but I must tell you, that whenever I see Monf. *de Torcy*, either at *Versailles* or *Paris*, they are always in the outward Room, and I do not know what to say to them. The Envoy of *Mantua* presses this matter also, and I have reason to think this Court would willingly set him at liberty: for Monf. *de Torcy* said, he had done Service to *France* in *Italy*; but as they have declared so publicly, that he is in Prison upon our King's account, it is no longer in their power to let him out. I do not well comprehend this matter, but I think something ought to be done. I do assure you, it has been with some difficulty that I have prevented the whole Family from coming to *Loo*. I take the liberty to trouble you with this matter, having formerly wrote to you about it: but had not Monf. *de Torcy* spoke again to me, I should have taken no further notice of it. I desire you will let me know His Majesty's pleasure, and I will act accordingly. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, September 3. 1700.

I Received at the same time the honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 26th past, and of another relating to the Designs against His Majesty's Person, which I left in my Lord *Albemarle*'s hands. Monsieur *Torcy* cannot easily excuse the Proceedings against Mr. *Chetwynd*. For if they will stop our Couriers without a Note from him, it is easy to do the like in *England* without a Note from the Secretary of State, as the Pensionary says they will do here in the like manner. But to seize and keep in custody so many days your Lordship's Secretary, after presenting himself to the *French* Governor, and shewing your Lordship's Passport, I think Monf. *Magellotti* cannot do less than own his fault, and ask pardon for so notorious a Breach of the Privilege of an Ambassador, as this certainly is.

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The *French* are every where mightily concerned for the Emperor's Refusal to enter into the Treaty for the *Spanish* Succession, but the King and the States do all that can be desired of them to bring the Emperor and the *Spanish* Court to the fairest Accommodation, by obliging them neither to send nor admit any foreign Troops into *Italy*, or other Dominions of *Spain*, which the *French*, as your Lordship mentions, are apprehensive of.

As to the Affairs of the North, your Excellency will understand directly from our Ministers, that all things are finally agreed and accommodated for the speedy return of the *Swedish* Land and Sea-Forces to their own home, when Sir *George Rooke* and *Mons. Allemonde* will likewise take their leave. If *Mons. Chamilly* was not invited to the last Conferences in *Holstein*, it was perhaps that the *Danes* did not think he did advance their Agreement fast enough, nor did Mr. *Cresset* go thither without Orders from hence, where 'twas not known but *Mons. Chamilly* would be present too, he being no ways excluded from doing his part among them.

The *French* Court, it seems, are angry with the *Lunenburghers* for the advantageous Conditions they have obtain'd; but there is no such thing, as the *Danes* agreeing to acknowledge the Ninth Electorate. It is only not to oppose it, and the Primogeniture *par voye de fait*. The King of *Denmark* will receive all possible Encouragement to enter into the Treaty of the *Spanish* Succession. Mr. *Cresset* has received Instructions to offer him, in concert with the *French* Ministers, and to the Princes of the House of *Lunenburgh*, the Instruments agreed on for that purpose, and nothing will be wanting on His Majesty's part, in those and all other Courts. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, September 5. 1700.

I Have the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 27th past, and am expecting to hear what Resolution will be taken by the Court of *France* in reference to the Notification of the Duke of *Gloucester's* death, upon the last Orders I sent your Lordship.

Your Lordship is very sensible that the Conclusion of the late Peace between *Denmark* and the contending Parties, as it was the Effect of the powerful Interposition of His Majesty and the States, so it has been very honourable to His Majesty and the Nation. What remains is to put a stop to the Disorders in *Liesland*, as well in respect to our Trade in those parts, as our Alliance with the Crown of *Sweden*. His Majesty therefore, in concert with the States, has writ Letters to the Kings of *Sweden* and *Poland*, advising them to an amicable Composure of differences, and to that end to agree to a Cessation of Arms, and a Place of Congress, where a Treaty may be set on foot. And as the States on their side have written on this Subject to *Mons. Heemskerk*, so His Majesty commands me to signify His Pleasure to your Lordship, that with the first Opportunity you assure the Ministers of the Court of *France*, and the King himself, of the continuance of His Majesty's great Care of the publick Tranquillity; and that for putting an end to the War now on foot between *Sweden* and *Poland*, His Majesty has written in pressing Terms to both those Princes: And that as his most Christian Majesty has an equal Concern in the Quiet of *Europe*, His Majesty does no ways doubt of his ready Concurrence in so good a Work, by employing his best Offices and Endeavours with those Princes to induce them to a speedy Accommodation, and to that end to agree immediately to an Armistice, and the Nomination of a proper Place for a Treaty; to which we have reason to believe the King of *Poland* is sufficiently inclined, from the Assurances *Mons. Gerstorf*, his Resident at the *Hague*, has lately given of the good Dispositions of his Master to Peace upon reasonable Conditions; which will be

be readily comply'd with by *Sweden*. And your Lordship is to give His Majesty, as soon as may be, an Account how these Propositions are received by the Court of *France*, and to sollicite the good Effects thereof in the best manner. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Helsingburg, August 25. 1700. O.S.

I Could not leave these parts before I had returned my humble Thanks to your Excellency for the honour of your Letter of the 30th past. I hope the handsome Conclusion the Guarantees make of their Work will be as much for their Reputation, as their Vigour and Conduct of it; and that both the Reasonableness of the Terms obtained for the Duke of *Holstein*, and the Readiness of the Guarantees to stop there, agreeing so well with their Professions and Declarations made before they entred into Action, will convince the World that their Aim was Peace, and not War, as the *Danes* endeavoured to persuade some Courts, and particularly that where your Excellency is, whose Ministers were pretty forward to believe that the Dispositions were quite contrary, and all the Inclinations to Peace on the part of *Denmark*. Now they say this is a force upon the *Danes*, and cannot last. That it is so, is very true, nor was it ever otherwise, the *Danes* having never at any time yielded to the Duke's Justice, till they were overpowered; and therefore it may for all that be as lasting now as formerly, the rather because the Duke's Rights are now in a good measure set in so much a clearer Light than heretofore, that the Occasions and Pretexts of a Quarrel will no more be so ready at hand. Yet if the ordinary Talk of *Copenhagen*, and some Appearances too, may be credited, the *Danes* seem as if they would hardly give the Ink of their Ratifications leave to dry before they begin a new War. Immediately after the Conclusion of the Peace they drew out, equipped and mann'd their Fleet, threatening that as soon as ours and the *Dutch* Squadrons were gone, they would fall upon the *Swedish* Fleet, against which they might have reasonably hoped to have advantage, the same being much weakened by considerable Detachments, and otherwise. But Sir *George Rook's* Resolution to stay till the *Swedish* Ships be in safety, will, I hope, obviate that danger. Nothing but want of a fair Wind to carry off the *Swedes*, hinders us from seeing the last Scene of a Guaranty, which not only for the Vigour, but also for the Moderation and Disinterestedness of the Auxiliaries, wants a parallel in History; and it will be perhaps a long time before it be imitated.

The Accession of this Crown to the Treaty about the *Spanish* Succession goes very slowly forward, and these Ministers seem to think the Circumstances of their Affairs ought to excuse them at present from taking part in it; since the Emperor has so many ways to incommode them, especially while the War the King of *Poland* has begun against them continues. They seem much persuaded that their Friends will not press them to expose themselves, but rather first help them to a State of Safety, and then they shall be in a condition to make returns. This King has drawn his Army that he brought out of *Sealand* towards the other side of this Province, where there is better convenience for shipping off so many of them as he intends to transport to *Liesland*. Whether his Majesty will go with them, or not, is very uncertain: but very certain it is that his Presence amongst these slow People is of so great use, that without it, this Summer's Expedition would have had no good effect.

I hope in a day or two to return to *Stockholm*, where I shall wish for frequent Occasions of assuring your Excellency with how sincere Esteem and Respect, I am, &c.

J. ROBINSON.

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To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, September 8. 1700.

THE Fever which has been hanging upon me for some time, appears now to be a regular Tertian, which unhappily has the Return of its Fit this Morning.

Last Night I received Letters from their Royal Highnesses for this Court, which will not be received here, unless there is a Letter at the same time from His Majesty; neither indeed can I offer them, without being impowered to do it, either by you or by Mr. *Blathwayt*, as you see, by the inclosed, I freely tell Mr. *Griffith*, whom I have desired to consult with you and my Lord *Marlborough* upon this Matter. There is so much time already past, that I wait with some impatience for your Directions in what manner the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death is to be notified, the rather that I may prevent the Discourses of some People, who would have it believed that this Court is backward in paying us the Respect of going into Mourning on this Occasion.

I have made enquiry about *Tetone*, and I cannot find there is any such Man at *St. Germain's*; but it is so usual for those People to assume borrowed Names, that it is not at all strange this Man should not be known. On Monday the $\frac{1}{2}$ of *August*, Mr. *Pitts* was closetted at *St. Germain's*, and the Wednesday following, he returned for *England* by the way of *Calais*, as his Friend *Lacy* did the next day by *Dieppe*, and a Son of Mr. *Carryl's* eldest Brother within two days after, by *Dunkirk*. Mr. *Pitts* has recommended himself here, by making them believe he was commissioned by a certain number of Parliament-Men, to come hither and receive Instructions in what manner King *James* would have them act for his Service in the next Session; and he is ordered to propose, that the King's Business in Parliament should be postponed, till the League with *France* be first considered, as Grievances always were before Subsidies.

There are two Men lately come from *Scotland*, one *Macklay*, a Cousin to Sir *John Macklay*, and one *Maxwell*, distinguished by the Name of *Maxwell of Dolswinden*. They bring an Account that the National Address, or whatever else is for their Interest, will be promoted in the South, by the joint Counsels and Endeavours of four Lords, viz. *H—n*, *H—s*, *T—le*, and *T—r*, and in the North by *Southesk*, *Marshall*, *A—n*, and *T—te*. For ten days together the Court of *St. Germain's* received no Letters from that Kingdom, which makes them suppose the Government stopt their Packets. That Court is actually in Mourning, except the King and Queen. One of the Council was of Opinion they should be so far from expecting a Notification, that King *James* himself ought rather to notify it to all other Princes.

About five days ago I received *Charnock's* Paper by an unknown hand, and I shall endeavour to have the Author discovered. You certainly judge very right that it is a new Piece, for it is agreeable to the Counsels lately taken at *St. Germain's*, that such who were concerned in the Conspiracy should be openly countenanced; whereas they have hitherto only been encouraged underhand. Lord *Melfort* has taken a House at *St. Germain's*, and is to live there this Winter. Sir *John Parsons* of *Rygate*, and his Son, have both been to make their Court to the late King and Queen; and he says, he hopes to receive them when he is Mayor of *London*, which he pretends is his Right next Year. *Vavasour*, as I am told, is now in *Flanders*, with my Lord *Aylesbury*.

The Court of *France* goes to *Fontainebleau* the 23d instant, and the late King of *England*, and the P. Prince of *Wales* on the 27th.

The last time I saw Monf. *de Torcy*, which was about a fortnight ago, he seemed very well satisfied with His Majesty's Conduct in what related to the Treaty:

Treaty : but I shall know more when I see him next, which I hope may be in a short time. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. GRIFFITH.

S I R,

Paris, September 8. 1700.

I Have received yours, with their Royal Highnesses Letters, and I shall be always ready to obey their Commands ; tho' in this Case, upon inquiry, I cannot deliver the Letters, were I not indisposed as I am, unless I had also one from the King to the *French* King. This Court says, that it is usual upon these Occasions, that the Prince and Princess send a Person on purpose, with a Character, who would be received as if he came from a Crowned Head, as they think it was done in the case of the Duke of *Cambridge*. If the Prince and Princess would avoid that, then a Letter from the King to be delivered by me with those of their Royal Highnesses will be sufficient to make this Court go into Mourning. And as for the other Letters to the rest of the Princes, they need not be delivered. This will avoid one Inconvenience, since there is none for the Dauphin. I am sensible of the Reason why there is not, and I think it convenient not to make that matter so publick, as by consequence it would be, and cause various Discourses.

I desire you would assure their Royal Highnesses of my most humble Duty. It will be convenient that you should inform my Lord *Marlborough* and Mr. Secretary *Vernon* of this whole matter, since I have received from *Loo* no other Orders than to put myself and Family in Mourning, which I have already done. I hope I may know as soon as possible what measures are taken. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, September 10. 1700.

IT is some time since I had the honour of any Letter from your Excellency, and you will see by a Copy of what I write to Court this day, that News grows better in our Neighbourhood, God be thanked for it. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

Copy of a Letter to Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

HAVING received no Letter from you this day, I conclude you are on your Journey ; and indeed, I am glad I can say at present that I have very little to write from hence. The Ministers employ'd in the Affairs of *Holstein*, have now little else to do but to feast one the other, which tho' we have not spared for above these four years last past, it appears a little more seasonable after the Peace, than it was so long before it. The small *Gravamina* only remain, which may be easily adjusted in a friendly manner, between Commissaries for that purpose, from the King of *Denmark* and Duke of *Holstein*. These are the Matters for the Parties to end between themselves : But as to the Demolition of the *Hittler* Fort in this River *Elbe*, which is remitted to the Arbitrage of *England*, *France*, and *Holland*, I must recommend it once more to His Majesty's Thoughts, as being for the common Benefit of all Trading Nations, and particularly for our own, established with such great Privileges in this City. Merchants never think there is care enough taken of their Interest, and are apt to clamour upon slight Occasions. If His Majesty pleases to give me Orders concerning this *Hittler* Sconce its being razed, and that either the *French* or *Dutch* concur in it, the thing must be done.

The *Mecklenburg* Affairs are now again coming upon the Stage, and will (probably) entertain the Jurisconsults of the Directors for a considerable time. God be thanked, *England* is unconcerned in any Guaranty of these fine Disputes, and they must look backwards as far as the Treaty of *Westphalia* for Guarantees. I fear the Court of *Denmark* (notwithstanding its late Engagement with the House of *Hanover*) will still play Tricks against the Ninth Electorate. I wish *France* may not spur on the Inclination, since that is the most combustible Matter for kindling a Flame in the Empire. I am every day more and more assured that his *Polish* Majesty is highly cared for by the Court of *France*.

I hear from *Hanover*, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* is to be accompanied in her Journey towards *Aix-la-Chapelle* by the Electress of *Brunswick*, her Mother. The Duke of *Zell* has been to see both those Princesses at *Hanover*. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Septemb. 15. 1700.

I Have yours of the 29th of *August*, wherein you take notice of the Princess's Letters. I am sorry this matter was not concerted with the King, which might have prevented these Difficulties, which I did in some measure foresee, and therefore I wrote fully on this Subject to Mr. *Blathwayt*. His Answer was, that on this melancholy Occasion, all that would be needful, was, to put myself and my Gentlemen in Mourning. Since my Illness, my Secretary has wrote to Mr. *Cardonnel*, to explain whether any notice is to be given to this Court. He desires him to acquaint me, that there are no Orders given to notify the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death to any Court whatsoever. So you see how this matter stands. I must tell you, to remove any Suspensions that this Court might seem not inclined to go into Mourning; that they are ready to do it whenever it is notified to them in form: but they do not take it to be regular, that I should deliver the Princess's Letters, without any from the King: for you know, in all Audiences that I have, my Discourse is always in the Name of the King, and cannot be otherwise, tho' I can at the same time make a Compliment from their Royal Highnesses. They do still say here, that if this was the case of any of the Children of Monsieur, he would send, and not the King. So likewise, they conceive, their Royal Highnesses ought to do. I am apt to think the Princess had not sent these Letters, had she not thought that I had Orders also from *Loo*. I shall readily obey what Directions you give me: but I must confess it is my opinion; that, since there has been so much time lost, and unless it is generally notified in all Courts, that it is better to let this Matter rest. Besides, this Court goes tomorrow seven-night to *Fontainebleau*, and in a few days after the late King and Queen go. How long they are to be there, is uncertain; but whilst they stay, I know not well how I can go thither. I must acquaint you that the Introducer of Ambassadors has been with me, and has sent me some Precedents where the Duke of *Tork* has sent to this Court. I have inclosed a Copy of his Letter, that you may judge of it.

I hope you have received mine of the 8th Instant, with a Copy of one to Mr. *Griffith*. I have got rid of my Ague, but am weak, as you will see by my Writing. I intend to see Mons. *de Torcy* soon, and then I shall not fail to give you an account of what passes. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER:

To

To the Earl of JERSEY, Lord Chamberlain.

My Lord,

Paris, Septemb. 17. 1700.

MY Illness has been the Occasion that I have not acquainted your Lordship with what passes here: but I am now got out again, and yesterday I saw Monsieur *de Torcy*. I do find by him that they are very well satisfied with the Proceedings in *Holland*, in relation to the great Affair, and I do like the Proposal to engage those that will not enter into the Guaranty, to be neuter. I did hear from other Parts, that the *French* Ministers were uneasy, and of opinion, that we did not act fairly; but I assure you that they have no such Thoughts here at present.

I do not doubt but you have heard that the Princess has sent me Letters for this Court, to notify the Death of the Duke of *Gloucester*. Unless I have also Letters from the King himself, I cannot present them; nor will they be received, as I am informed. I should think the Princess should have known the King's Pleasure on this matter. There is so much time lost, that in my opinion it is much better to let it alone: for tho' they should go into Mourning, it would be for so little a time, that it might not be well taken.

The great Discourse we have here is, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* is to be declared King of *Prussia*, by the Emperor, on condition that he is to furnish 8000 Men, to be paid at his own Charge in *Italy*. It is generally believed, and I am told that the King our Master knew of it, before he left *England*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Septemb. 18. 1700.

I Can now assure you that this Court is entirely satisfied with the Proceedings in *Holland*, in relation to the Treaty, and there are no grounds for what is said in other Parts. I do not doubt but that there are too many that would have it otherwise; but I am of opinion, that it is not in their power to effect it.

The great Discourse we have here is, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* will be soon declared King of *Prussia*, by the Emperor; that he is to furnish 8000 Men, at his own Expence, against *Italy*, whenever the Emperor demands them. I have some reason to think it is so, and that it will very soon be owned.

I find the Pension of the P. Prince of *Wales* is much less than it was at first reported, and I believe he is not to be at *Fontainebleau*. It is certain, that at *St. Germain*s they would have the *French* King take more notice of him: but I am of opinion that they will go on as they have formerly done, and no otherwise.

I am told that there is a sort of an Address lately come from *Scotland*, signed by the D. of *H——*, and a hundred Noblemen and Gentlemen more. I will endeavour to get a Copy of it, tho' I believe it will be hard to procure. They assure the late King, that they are ready to execute whatever may be for his service, when he shall please to make use of them. It is said that the late King, in the last Visit which the *French* King made him, which was on the 16th Instant, took notice of it to him, in hopes he would promise to assist him; which he evaded, by telling the late King, that he thought his chief Aim ought to be upon *England*, and that the more he relied upon his Party in *Scotland*, the more he would disoblige his Friends in *England*. I have formerly given an account to the Earl of *Jersey*, that the Business of D. *H——* is carried on by Captain *Maire* or *Meers*, who is now at *Dunkirk*, and conveys his Letters. I cannot tell whether any Endeavours have been

H h h

used

used to get him into *England*, tho' they assure me here that he is capable of discovering the whole Scene of *Scotland*. As for *Charnock's* Paper, it is said to be wrote by *Ferguson*, others give out that it is maliciously designed to asperse those of *St. Germain's*; so that I find they do now all agree that it is not really *Charnock's*, tho' at first they declared it was written by him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. I am desired by *Monf. de Torcy* to write about two *French* Seamen. I have inclosed the Paper he gave me, and the thing seems reasonable.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hamburg, Septemb. 20. 1700.

I Have nothing new to authorize troubling Your Excellency with a Letter, having none of yours of late to acknowledge: but being commanded by His Majesty to hasten into the Courts of *Lunenbourg* to press the entrance into our Treaty for the *Spanish* Partage, I could not leave this Place without doing myself the Honour of writing to your Excellency; and if you have any Commands for me for the future, your Excellency will please to address them to me at the Court of *Zell*, where I am like to make my chief Residence for some time. I go to-morrow to *Wolfenbuttle*, where *Monf. de Bonac* expects me impatiently. From thence I shall pass to the Court of *Hanover*, and conclude with that of *Zell*.

The King of *Denmark* is indisposed, and by the last Letters from *Copenhagen*, it was feared his Majesty might have the Small-Pox. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Paris, Septemb. 20. 1700.

Nothing but my being indisposed should have hindered me from returning you thanks for the favour of yours. I do now congratulate with you on your being at the end of so troublesome an Affair, especially since it was so evident that their manner of proceeding was such, that none were secure that had to do with them, and whatever made for their Interest they always declared, how false soever it was, and you know I had also my share, tho' at this distance. As to the Peace, they take little notice of it here, only at first they said it would not last, the King of *Denmark* being forced to do what he did. I am not of their opinion, for they find that the Duke of *Holstein* has those that will assist him. I fear the Affairs will not go so well in *Livonia*, tho' it is said here that the King of *Poland* is ready to enter into a Treaty, in order to compose Matters there. This will depend much upon the Success against *Riga*, as also on what the *Moscovites* will do. The grand Discourse we have here now is, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* will be declared King of *Prussia* very soon, and I have reasons to think it is true. I suppose all the Electors in *Germany* will in time press the same. You see I have little worth acquainting you with from hence, but I am glad of any Opportunity to assure you that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 22. 1700.

I Received by the last Post a Letter from the Earl of *Jersey*, wherein he mentions that the King would have me notify the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death to the *French* King: but he takes no notice of any Letter I should deliver at the same time, and especially since I have the Princess's Letter. I suppose they had not then received mine, wherein I acquaint Mr. *Blathwayt* of what had passed in relation to that Matter. I hope my Orders by the next

next Post will be plain; for on the same day my Lord Chamberlain wrote, Mr. *Blathwayt* writes me that the reason he had not sent me any Orders was, that the King did not think it necessary. I have nevertheless prepared Monf. *de Torcy*, saying, in discourse, that I could not tell but I might yet have Orders, and that very soon, to do it, tho' I assure you it will occasion Conjectures. What good excuse to make, I cannot well tell. This should have been prevented.

Here is a Courier returned from *Madrid*, who brought Letters of the 10th, which say that the King of *Spain* has continual Vomitings, and is extreme weak. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, September 23. 1700.

I Don't doubt but your Excellency is informed of the Answer of this Court to the last Memorial of the *French* Envoy Extraordinary, to make it change its Resolution of receiving any Imperial or other foreign Troops into its Domains in *Italy*: As I have also represented on the same Subject, by express Order as well of the King our Master, as the Lords the States-General, they have, almost word for word, answered to it in the same manner; that is to say, in short, that they pretend here to be at liberty, and under pretence of recruiting the foreign Troops who serve in the *Spanish* Pay, to introduce them when they shall judge it to be proper. The said Court plunges itself more and more into strange disorders in regard to the Succession. The King and the Queen are absolutely for the Imperial Court; and on the other hand, the Council of State runs blindly, and head foremost in favour of the Duke of *Anjou*, flattering themselves that his most Catholick Majesty will embrace this Affair. In the mean while, every thing grows worse and worse; many Deliberations and Consultations, but no good Resolutions. The King keeps his bed since yesterday, by reason of a new Flux; but as his Stools are not violent to-day, it is hoped his Majesty will soon recover, and appear again in publick, if the Oppression of his Lungs, which he is likewise troubled with, don't oblige him to keep out of the bad Air, &c. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Septemb. 24. 1700.

I Have the honour of yours of the 14th, and since His Majesty does not think it convenient I should be from *Paris*, I must wait some other Occasion. I received yesterday the inclosed from Mr. *Schonenberg*, who desires it might be sent to your Lordship with all expedition. I have therefore inclosed this in a Letter to Mr. *Stanhope*, which will bring it to your hands sooner than the other way. I hope you will write about notifying the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death. I must confess that I have been under great Difficulties, by reason the Princess has sent me Letters to the *French* King, which I cannot deliver, unless I have also one from His Majesty. I suppose I shall by next Post have full Directions, and then I shall desire an Audience. The Court is gone to *Fontainebleau*, and King *James* will be there in a few days. This will be inconvenient, but I must go thither if my Orders are such; there has been too much time past already. I did foresee something of this, and did write both to *Loo* and to *England* to desire Orders on this occasion, but have had none but what you mention. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 25. 1700.

I Have the favour of yours of the 9th. What you write concerning the Duke of *Cambridge*, that certainly is the Method that should have been taken. I have not yet my Letters from *Loo*, but I expect them to-day. I hope my Orders will be positive, and I shall obey them, tho' King *James* is at *Fontainebleau*.

Here is a Courier arrived from *Madrid* to the *French* Court. He also brought Letters from Mr. *Schonenberg*, which I have sent forward. The *French* Minister there having given a Memorial, as was agreed in *Holland*, to the Court of *Spain*, in order to dissuade His Catholick Majesty from receiving the Emperor's Troops, or any Foreigners in *Italy*, or in his other Dominions; the Answer was, that at present the King did not see any occasion of recruiting his Foreigners that were in his Service, but when he did, he should follow the Example of the King his Master, and other Princes.

I am told that Mr. *Alexander Barclay*, about twenty-five Years of Age, eldest son to Sir *George Barclay*, went to *England* on the 23d Instant. His Instructions were given him by *Innis*, a *Scotch* Jesuit. Sir *George* himself is again retired to *Lyons*, or thereabouts.

All *Birkenhead's* Letters are addressed to *Mons. Carault, RotifEUR dans la rue de Boucherie, Faubourg St. Germain*. I am told it will be of use to have them opened at the Post-Office. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 29. 1700.

I Have inclosed both the Requisitions which the Princes that oppose the ninth Electorate have made to the Court of *France*, with this King's Answer, which you will find very strong, and it seems to intimate that He is ready to assist them in any manner they shall judge proper. This may make the Emperor very uneasy, and may also have other Consequences. I find, on all occasions, that this Court cannot forgive the Elector of *Hanover*. I have little to acquaint you with from hence this Post, only I hear that one *Pitcairn*, a *Scotch* Physician, went lately for *Scotland* by the way of *London*. He has lived several Years at *St. Germain's*.

Maxwell, one of the Assassins, has lately received a *Lettre de Cachet* to leave *Paris*. By what means this was obtained, I cannot tell.

I have the favour of yours of the 12th, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. As I was sending away my Letters, I received one from Mr. *Blathwayt*, whose Stile is such, that I am now still under more Difficulties; he giving me no Answer to what I desired of him in relation to the Princess's Letters, whether I am to deliver them or no. His Words are these; "I have little to trouble your Lordship with at this time, having nothing in command from your Lordship. We are expecting to hear how the bare Notification from the King of the death of the Duke of *Gloucester* will be received in the Court of *France*." I cannot tell what I shall do, because the late King is at *Fontainebleau*, but I believe I shall go thither. I take it, by this Expression of bare Notification from the King, that I am not to deliver the Letters. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Soleurue, Sept. 29. 1700.

THE Answer of the *Swisses* to our Memorial is not such as Messrs. *de Puyseux*, *Valkenier*, and I expected, as you will see. They believed that by explaining themselves in the manner I gave you an account of by the last Courier, and as we thought they might do it, they would enter into an Engagement, which at present they have no Intention to come into. The best Reasons of the Ambassador of *France*, join'd to two Hundred Thousand Livres, which he caused to glister in their Eyes, not having been capable to make them change, what could M. *Valkenier* and I do? Nevertheless I must tell you, my Lord, that in general all the Deputies have, by express Orders of their Sovereigns, spoke to me of His Majesty with so much Esteem, Respect, and Veneration, that I was charmed with it; the very particular Expressions they made use of, and coolly and in their Cups, not giving me leave to doubt but that their Hearts spoke, and I have not perceived the same Eagerness for his most Christian Majesty, when we dined with his Ambassador. To-day the Deputies of the four Cantons are to dine with me, and on Friday I set out from hence for *Bern*. I am with all Esteem, &c.

D'HERVAERT.

To Monsieur DE TORCY.

Translated out of French.

SIR,

Paris, Octob. 1. 1700.

AS I have just received my Orders to inform the King of the Death of the Duke of *Gloucester*, I pray you to have the Goodness to procure me a private Audience of his Majesty, and I will not fail coming to *Fontainebleau* the Evening before. Give me leave also, Sir, to remind you of the Decree, which you promised me this Week. I do not doubt of your Exactness, and am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

SIR,

Paris, Oct. 2. 1700.

I Think Mr. *Blathwayt* might have wrote plainer. Nevertheless I have sent to Monsr. *de Torcy* to desire an Audience of the King, and I do believe I shall be at *Fontainebleau* on Monday next. I do find already that the late King, who is there, does not like the Report of my coming; he thinks it to be deferred so long on purpose, and that there is some Mystery in it. It had certainly been better if it had not happened so, for I cannot well stay there, since I should continually meet some of that Court. I intend at my Audience to make a Compliment from their Royal Highnesses, and deliver their Letters to the King, the others I shall send back again. I cannot yet tell how this bare Notification, as the Expression is, will be received: but I am of opinion that the Mourning will be very short. I do not hear that it is to be notified to any other Court.

I have received the Favour of yours of the 16th, and I will endeavour to do all I can in relation to the Address. We may in time learn the Substance, and the Names, but further I very much doubt.

I have thought *Brocard* of late a little idle, and therefore I have not supplied him with so much, as otherwise I should have done. He promises to be more diligent, but I shall never exceed what you mention.

I am told that Colonel S—by, when he returned from *England*, brought the late King thirteen Hundred Pounds from some of his Friends at *London*. He is very zealous in their Cause, whatever he may pretend. I have nothing further than to assure you that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. SCHONENBERG.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 3. 1700.

I Am much obliged to you for the Goodness you have to let me know what passes at your Court, as it is very necessary I should be informed, for the Service of the King our Master. For as there often go about false Reports here, I could not otherwise take my Measures. You may imagine that all *Europe* waits for the Resolutions that will be taken at *Madrid*, and as the Health of the King of *Spain* is always wavering, and many Consequences depend upon that, we are glad to know its Condition. I did dispatch your Packet of the 16th of *September* immediately, and here is nothing worth your Attention. Every thing is quiet, and the good Correspondence betwixt the King our Master and this Court continues; and that is what we must hope for, for the Tranquillity of all *Europe*.

I receive just now the Letters from *Loo*. The King our Master is in perfect good Health, and I believe he will go over for *England* towards the end of this Month. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. METHUEN.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 3. 1700.

I Have been of late something out of order, which has prevented my writing, tho' there is nothing now worth your Notice. All things are very quiet here, and will continue so, unless the Measures which *Spain* may take with the Emperor, occasion the contrary; which, I take it, is not their Interest; and I hope that the Declaration that has been made at *Madrid* and at *Vienna* will prevent it. I hear your Neighbours are very angry with what the King of *Portugal* has done. I wish others were as well convinced that it is the only Means to preserve the Peace of *Europe*, and I am satisfied they will at last.

This Court is gone to *Fontainebleau*, where they will continue 'till the middle of *November*.

I have lately had Letters from *Loo*. The King continues in good Health, and about the end of this Month He will be going for *England*. The Electresses of *Brandenburg*, and of *Hanover*, with others of that Family, are to meet Him at the *Hague*, which occasions some Discourses in relation to the extending the Act of Settlement of our Crown, which may be convenient, since we have lost the Duke of *Gloucester*. I have now received Orders to notify his Death to this Court. I should be glad to know if you have the same. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Zell, October 4. 1700.

IT was with great pleasure that I received yesterday the honour of your Excellency's Letter dated *September* the 20th, in which I understand you are happily freed from your late Indisposition. I congratulate your Excellency with all Sincerity on the Recovery of your Health, and heartily wish you a lasting Continuance of it.

I

Your

Your Excellency sees I am now got into my old Walks, in the House of *Lunenbourg*, carrying my Pack of *Spanish* Merchandize about with me from Court to Court. As yet I do not see many Customers fond of it. The Answer at *Berlin* upon that Subject, when the Elector was pressed to it, has been made too publick, since it was no ways to the advantage of our Treaty; so that the Marquis *de Bonac*, and my self, have resolved not to publish what these Princes say to us on this Occasion, unless their own Ministers begin to make a merit of it first in the Court of *Vienna*, and elsewhere, as it is not doubted but they will. However I am persuaded, that it is for the King our Master's Service, not to keep your Excellency in the dark upon any Consideration whatever. I must only beg you will please to insinuate to the *French* Ministers (without Affectation) that I am very mysterious with your Excellency upon these matters, because of a Promise naturally made between *Monf. de Bonac* and me, for keeping the Answer secret, and for not writing it to any but our respective Secretaries of State. I shall now inform your Excellency, that from *Hamburg* I went first directly to the Princes of *Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel*, where I found the *French* Minister, and in concert with him, performed, in His Majesty's Name, the Ceremony of the Invitation into the Guaranty in question. The Answer thereunto not being ready there, no more than in other Places; I left *M. de Bonac* to solicit it, who thinks he shall suddenly bring it after me himself in Person to the Court of *Zell*, where he may appear, tho' he be contrebanded at *Hanover*. I have (for the first time in my Life) play'd the *French* Envoy in that Court of *Hanover*, and have pressed the Elector to explain himself; who I can assure your Excellency will very industriously avoid doing so, for many good Reasons, no body having such nice Measures to observe with the Emperor as his Electoral Highness has.

I had a long and formal Conference two days ago with the double Ministry of *Zell* and *Hanover* at a place called *Engsen*, equally distant from the two Courts, the Result of which can give small Satisfaction as yet. They declare themselves like the Oracles of old, in doubtful ambiguous Terms, upon which nothing can be founded; and I fear a plain Resolution can scarce be expected to be drawn from them. The good Design of our Project is highly praised, but I cannot see any body so forward for entering into serious Engagements for the effectual Execution of it. As I see things work from time to time, your Excellency shall not fail to be rightly informed, and I must beg you to give me all the light you can, in what relates to the North, from the Court where your Excellency resides, we being deeply concerned to know the truth as nearly as possible, and to feel all their politick Pulses. I wish we may not see some State-Mountebank Tricks as well practised in the Business of *Livonia*, as we have seen not long since play'd in that of *Holstein*; things of that nature make too great an Impression in my Memory to be forgotten so soon.

The present Curiosity in these Parts rolls chiefly upon the *Swedish* Expedition towards *Saxony*, for diverting his *Polish* Majesty. There is nothing yet to be said of it, only the Preparations and Orders are certain. A *Spanish* Envoy is coming this way suddenly to overthrow all mine and *Monf. Bonac's* Work.

So soon as I have closed this Letter, I shall hasten after the Duke of *Zell* into the Forest of *Goër*, where I hope to hunt the Stag with him 'till the Frost drives him home. My Family is tumbling back again into this Country, and I should be much in the wrong if I complain'd for want of Exercise in my Employment. I am the Rolling-Stone, and must take my chance; provided *Old England* is safe and prosperous, our Pains are never to be regretted.

I do unfeignedly wish your Excellency constant Health and Prosperity, and am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Loo, Oct. 6. 1700.

I Have received, with all imaginable Acknowledgments I am capable of, the Letter of the 24th of *September*, which your Excellency has honoured me with. I have given His Majesty an Account of what it contains. His Majesty told me that He would have it read to Him, when He was more at leisure; and that in the mean while I might write to your Excellency, that when they shall have delivered to you the revised Order, it will be necessary that you advertise Mr. *Schulenberg*, Counsellor and Secretary of His Majesty at the *Hague*, of it. He has the full Power of the King, sealed with His Seal, and signed with his Hand, with which he will trust a Man of Confidence, and send him to *Paris*, as soon as he shall hear that your Excellency has the said Order in your Hands; which you will then be pleased to deliver to that Man, who will have all the necessary Instructions to cause this Money to be safely delivered in *Holland*.

I have delivered to my Lord *Albemarle*, in his own Hands, the Letter which your Excellency sent me for him. He has promised me to read it to the King, and to endeavour to obtain from His Majesty the Augmentation of the Appointments, which M. *de Lubieres* desires with so much reason. I have informed him of the Obligation he has to your Excellency for the manner of Intercession you are pleased to make use of for him. I hope for good Success, and that instead of four Thousand Livres he will obtain six Thousand.

I have not failed to inform Mr. *Richard de Bussieres*, first Intendant of the King at *Besançon*, of what your Excellency has obtained in relation to the three Articles, which concern His Majesty's Domains in *Burgundy*. I send him also word of the Goodness your Excellency is pleased to have to allow him to address himself to you, when the Affairs require it.

I have never hoped for any thing for the *French* establish'd at *Orange*: but I am glad that this poor People see at least that we neglect no Opportunity to work for their Interests. The Case of Mr. *Bliffon* being very particular, I hope that the Credit of your Excellency, together with the Attestation, which M. *de Julien* will give of him to M. *de Torcy*, will procure him the liberty to go into *France*, where he has never meddled with Affairs of Religion.

I have given my Lord *Albemarle* an account of what your Excellency did me the honour to write to me. I have also reported it to Mr. *Vrybergen*, who is at present at *Loo*, and who will not fail to send an Answer to the Letter which he received from your Excellency of the 27th of last Month, by which we conceive yet more hopes of the nearness of the Payment of the second Term. It will be time enough, when that Payment shall be made, to think on Madame *Desanguin*, concerning whom your Excellency will have the Goodness, if they speak again to you about it, to stick to the Answer which she has already made. I hope also that your Excellency will be so good as to send me word when the revised Order shall be delivered to you. I am, &c.

J. ROBETHON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Octob. 6. 1700.

T O-morrow I go for *Fontainebleau*, and I am to have an Audience of the King on Friday Morning. I shall at the same time deliver their Royal Highnesses Letters. After I have discoursed with Mons. *de Torcy* of some Affairs, I shall return to *Paris*. I hope this matter will end well, but it must be owned, that hitherto we have been quite wrong. I told you in my

my last that I should write to M. *de Torcy*. I have inclosed his Answer. So you see they will go into Mourning, and to speak plainly, I could never find but they were always ready to do it, whenever it was notified to them.

I send you also the Answer which the *Swiss* Cantons have given the *French* Ambassador, and the like to us all. It was expected more favourable, or at least that they would have promised not to suffer any of the Emperor's Troops to pass through their Country.

Count *Malfi*, who was in *England* on the Birth of the Prince of *Piedmont*, is expected here very soon. He is to reside in *England*, as Envoy from the Duke of *Savoy*. He will endeavour to see the King at the *Hague*, and so go over about the same time with him. I have yours of *September 19.* to acknowledge, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P.S. The late King leaves *Fontainebleau* on Tuesday next, and then the Coast will be clear.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Octob. 9. 1700.

I Can now acquaint you, that yesterday I had an Audience of the King at *Fontainebleau*, when I notified to him the Death of the Duke of *Gloucester*, and delivered their Royal Highnesses Letters. The King expressed himself as extremely sensible of the great Loss, &c. as is usual on such Occasions. As to what related to their Royal Highnesses, he concluded with saying, that he would take an occasion of letting them know the great Share he took in their Concern. In short all things went as well as could be desired, and on Wednesday next the Court goes into Mourning, which will be the Day after the late King leaves *Fontainebleau*. I have some Reason to think that my going thither, whilst they were there, may have a good Effect. For of late the *St. Germain*s People are so high, that they think it is now our time to court them. I find that tho' they heard a Week before that I was to come, yet they could not believe it. I carried myself as if I thought there were no such Persons, and my Coach came to the great Stairs, which is under the late King's Apartment there. Those that belong to them were curious enough to see me, but it was also, I believe, no little Mortification to them to see where I went, all the *French* making me all the Compliments imaginable. I was a considerable time with Mons. *de Torcy*, and satisfied him both in relation to the Delay, and the King's not writing. I was forced to lay the Occasion of it on the Lords Justices, who the King thought would have sent me Orders, which was the Reason I had them not sooner from *Loo*. This I hope they will pardon, but when things are managed in such a manner, one must make the most plausible Excuse one can. I am of opinion, that we shall now soon see Matters of great Consequence transacted all over *Europe*, because it is expected that in a few Days we shall hear that the King of *Spain* is dead. They have at Court received a Courier from *Madrid*, and on the 26th of *September* the King was so ill, he having continual Vomiting and a great Looseness, that his Physicians believed he could not live a Week. Last Night late the Emperor's Envoy was with me, who had just received News of the 30th by an Express. His Letters mention that the King had received the Sacrament, the extreme Unction, &c. and that he had taken leave of the Queen, &c. so they despaired of his Life; but on the Day this was wrote, there were some little Hopes of him, his Looseness having abated. He told me he was then going for *Fontainebleau*. It is certain that the whole Council of *Spain*, and even those that were Creatures of the Queen, who is intirely for the House of *Austria*, are all for the Duke of *Anjou*. They flatter themselves that the *French* King will accept this Offer. I hope the Emperor, before it is too late, will see it his Interest to sign the Treaty.

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The Pope died on the 27th of last Month, and the Conclave began yesterday. The Cardinals *de Noailles* and *Camus* are both set out for *Rome*. I had some Discourse with the Nuncio, who thinks there will be great Divisions; and in case we do not hear that a new Pope is chosen very soon, the Conclave may last many Months, especially if the King of *Spain* should die. I think it had been better for our Affairs, if the Pope had lived some time longer.

This King has ordered the raising of ten Men in a Company, and twenty in the Regiment of Guards, which, as it is computed, will amount to about Twenty-six Thousand. The Horse is to be also augmented, but it is not said to what Number. You see by this, that they are resolved to be in a Condition to maintain their Pretensions. You will hear also, that *Monf. de Nesmond* is to continue at *Cadiz*, but I am told from good Hands that he has Orders to return to *Toulon*. Yet in case we should hear that the King of *Spain* is dead, it may alter this Resolution.

The King of *Poland*, upon the Instances of the *French* King, has agreed to a Truce, and is contented to conclude the Peace on the Foot of the Treaty of *Oliva*, if *Sweden* will accept it. I think I have acquainted you with all we have at present.

The late King goes to *St. Germain*s on Tuesday next. I intend to go soon after for *Fontainebleau*, tho' I have no Orders, yet I take it to be for His Majesty's Service at this Juncture, and I shall be more capable of letting you know how Affairs go.

I fear the Packet of the 29th of *September* has been stopp'd here, and it may be carried to *St. Germain*s. I cannot think any others would do it. I have inclosed the Copy of mine, with the *French* King's Answer to both the Requisitions. You will see that matters are changed.

I have yours of the 23d of *September*, and will let you know what I can learn of the Person you mention. He is to be suspected, for those sort of People generally take such ways of going for *England*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, October 11. 1700.

I Have obey'd His Majesty's Commands in notifying the Duke of *Gloucester*'s Death. The King received it with great Concern, and bid me assure the King my Master, that even at the time he first heard of it, he took share in the Loss, because he knew it would be a great trouble to His Majesty, with the other usual Compliments on such an Occasion. I delivered the Prince and Princess's Letters. To that he said he would take an Occasion of letting them know the great Share he took in their Loss. In short all things went as well as could be desired, and I hope His Majesty will approve of what I have done. The *French* Court will go into Mourning on Wednesday next. They were willing to have the Court of *St. Germain*s gone first, which will be to-morrow. I have wrote so fully to my Lord Chamberlain, that there is no Occasion of troubling you any further.

You will see by the News-Papers, that we soon expect to hear of the Death of the King of *Spain*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY Lord Chamberlain.

My Lord,

Paris, Octob. 11. 1700.

I Had desired an Audience of the King before I received your Lordship's of the 30th of *September*, and the King having appointed Friday last, I went the Day before for *Fontainebleau*, where I discoursed with *Monf. de Torcy*, and I did satisfy him, both in relation to the Delay, and the King's not writing.

I do take it, that as to the latter it always depends on the Prince that sends; tho' in the Case of the Duke of *Cambridge* it was done by Letter. In short all things passed as well as could be desired, and it may be, at another Time they would have insisted on that Form. The Answer *M. de Torcy* made at last was, that there was so good an Understanding, that I need not doubt but whatever came from the King now would certainly be well received. He told me that they had an Express from *Spain* with Letters of the 26th of last Month, and that the King of *Spain* was so extream ill, that his Physicians thought he could not live eight Days. That thereupon they had dispatched a Courier to *Monf. de Villars*, with Orders to acquaint the Emperor with it; and to let him know, that as they had not yet named a Successor, so it would be necessary to know his further Resolutions, since the Case might soon happen, which would oblige them to take such Measures as would be proper, in case the Emperor did not think fit to sign the Treaty. *Monf. de Torcy* made an excuse, that the Time did not permit the first concerting with the King, that else it would have been done, tho' he did not see any Difficulty but that His Majesty would approve of it. He desired I would write, which I assured him I would not fail to do; and then I took notice of the Augmentation of their Forces, which will amount to Twenty-six Thousand Foot. There is to be also one of the Horse, but the Number is not yet declared. I said that I heard that *Monf. de Nesmond* was to remain at *Cadix*. He said, as to the first, that as Affairs stood, it was convenient: but as for the latter, *Monf. de Nesmond* had Orders to return to *Toulon*. There was also a Courier sent to *M. de Tallard*, who will already have informed you of all this Matter. I returned to *Paris* the same Day, where I found the Emperor's Envoy at my House. He had received a Courier from *Madrid* of the 30th, which confirms the same News of the King, but says much more, that he had received the Sacraments, and had taken leave of the Queen, &c. That all about him took it for granted he could not live, yet in a Postscript they write, that that Night they had some little Hopes, his Looseness, which had been very violent, being abated. He went strait to *Fontainebleau*, and is very uneasy, and the more so, because all of the Council in *Spain* are intirely for the Duke of *Anjou*: Cardinal *Portocarrero*, and Count *Aguilar*, who are in the Queen's Interest, being also for it; and they flatter themselves that the Offer will be accepted by *France*. There is no Courier arrived since, tho' at this Place the only Discourse is that the King of *Spain* is dead. I am of opinion that we shall soon hear it. I hope your Lordship will send me what Directions His Majesty thinks proper, in case this should happen, that I may act accordingly. I intend to go to *Fontainebleau* soon after the late King leaves it, which is to-morrow. I shall stay some time, or at least so long as I think it for His Majesty's Service. The *French* Court goes into Mourning on Wednesday next, as is said, for a Fortnight. I have reason to think that my going to *Fontainebleau*, whilst the Court of *St. Germain*s was there, may have a good Effect; for of late all about them are grown to so great a heighth as is not to be imagined, and I fear they have gained upon too many of the *English* that are here. They heard of my coming for some time, and yet would not believe it. I find it has humbled them mightily. I did not avoid any thing that was necessary to my Character, my Coach came to the great Stairs, which is under the Apartment of the late King. I saw several Faces I knew in *England*; but I hope never to see them there again. I confess I am often under all the Concern that is possible, about the many Reports we have here, that His Majesty is ill, &c. which I met again at *Fontainebleau*; and it makes me fear that his Health is not so well as could be wished. Tho' I observe, that this sort of News comes always from those at *St. Germain*s.

I desire your Lordship will excuse me to Lord *Albemarle* for my not writing to him; and let him know that I have the Order for the second Payment of what was agreed on by your Lordship, in relation to *Orange*, &c.

I received the inclosed with one from Mr. *Schonenberg*. It is of an old Date, and came by the ordinary Post, which I had not here 'till late on Friday.

I am now told that Monf. *d'Harcourt* is ordered towards *Catalonia*, and all Officers to their Regiments. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, October 11. 1700.

I Sent you what I knew from *Fontainebleau*; we are now in expectation of hearing that the King of *Spain* is dead. The last Courier came away on the 30th, and then there were little or no Hopes. As for Monf. *de Nesmond's* Squadron, it has Orders to return to *Toulon*. Monf. *d'Harcourt* is a going to *Catalonia*, and most of the Officers to their Regiments. The Emperor will be again press'd to sign the Treaty, and I hope he will see that it is his Interest. All of the Council of *Spain*, and even the Queen's Creatures, are for the Duke of *Anjou*, and they flatter themselves that the Offer will be accepted by *France*.

I am preparing to go in ten Days to *Fontainebleau*, whence you shall have a constant Account of any thing worth your notice. I take the liberty of inclosing my Packet for *Loo* to you, and desire you will send it on as soon as you can. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 13. 1700.

I Have the Favour of yours of the 26th of *September*, and by the Description of *le Brun*, it must be Father *Cosmo*, alias *Clark*, who has been famous on several accounts, and was intrusted by those of *St. Germain's*, when he left this Place, which is near six Months ago, and it is said he ran away with a considerable Sum. In case he is come back, which I shall soon learn, this was only a Pretence, and I believe he has been in *England*, as well as in *Holland*, as a Spy. I did give my Lord *Jersey* an Account, when he went from hence, and could he have been taken, it would have been of Use.

I cannot see more by the Answer of the *African Company*, than that they assert they have a Right to trade on those Coasts, which they deny here, and I do perceive the *French* have all along taken our Ships; and tho' some may have been released at *Gorea*, yet whenever they were brought hither, we never had any Satisfaction. I will see what can be done, tho' I am, almost persuaded they will make none. The only way that is left, is to serve them in the same manner. As for Monf. *de Tortie*, I should be glad to serve him, but the very Name of a Minister is enough to destroy any Pretensions. I have done what I could in Cases much more favourable, but they will not hear of any thing of that nature; and in a private Audience of the King, he has declared to me, that for the future he hoped such things would not be desired of him, which he could not grant. We have now an Account that the King of *Spain* died on the 2d of this Month, by a Courier that is said to have passed there. I shall go to-morrow for *Fontainebleau*, and thence I shall be able to acquaint you with what is more certain. Monf. *d'Harcourt* is a going to *Catalonia*, and Count *Tessè* to the Duke of *Savoy*, as is reported.

King *James* has ordered the printing of the Papers of King *Charles* the Second, that were found in his Cabinet, with the Account of declaring himself a Roman Catholick at his Death, as also the late Dutcheſs of *Tork*; and he has set his name to it, to justify that they are true Copies. He gave them at *Fontainebleau* to several publick Ministers. I have it, but it is not mine. They will soon be common. I will send it to you as soon as I can. It is the

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the same, in *French*, with that which was printed in *England*, after King *Charles's* Death. This will do him great Service there I suppose. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, Oct. 14. 1700.

I Have received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 7th instant from *Fontainebleau*, and according to your Commands sent a Copy to Mr. *Blathwayt* to *Loo*, the same Night. Our *French* Ambassador here received a Courier two Hours ago, it is supposed from *Spain*: but I know nothing yet of Certainty more than that we daily expect News of that King's Death, for which I see your Court is doing all needful Preparations. Whatever the King of *Poland* tells either you or us of his Inclinations to Peace, no body here believes a word of it, since the Czar of *Muscovy* is marched in person with so formidable a Power to his Assistance. He has certainly besieged *Nerva*, and probably taken it before this time, and all *Livonia* is looked on as lost, the *Swedes* not acting with the Vigour that was expected from them for its Defence. Mr. *de Lelienroot*, their Ambassador here, presses hard both the King and the States for the Succour promised by our late Treaty, which is like to come slowly; and whether given in kind by Men and Shipping, or in Money, which he seems rather to desire, will be very inconsiderable against such an Enemy. I have received no Orders yet to notify the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death here. Sir *George Rook*, with his Squadron to convoy the King home, has been on this Coast, at *Gorée*, ever since Monday; but the Weather has been so exceeding stormy, that he has not been able to come ashore. The King leaves *Loo* next Monday for *Soefdyk*, where he stays 'till Thursday, and that Night intends to be here; when after a few days Stay, he will take the first Opportunity of good Weather to embark for *England*. The Prince and Princess of *Hesse-Cassel* are parted hence this Morning. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, October 16. 1700.

AS soon as I received yours of *September 25*, I left *Paris*, and on Thursday Night came to this Place. I found that Monf. *Heemskerk*, by reason of his Indisposition, had already executed his Orders, by presenting a Memorial. My Orders being to speak to the King himself, I waited the next Morning on M. *de Torcy*, when I acquainted him with what you mentioned, and at the same time I did desire he would procure me an Audience of the King, which I had this Morning, when I acquainted his Majesty with the great Concern it was to the King to see the Troubles in *Liesland*, which, if not soon composed, might have very ill Consequences to the Peace and Quiet of *Europe*. That the King did take great part therein, and would do all that lay in his power to induce those Princes to a speedy Accommodation, and to that end he had already wrote to them in the most pressing Terms that were possible; that as His Majesty had an equal Concern in the Quiet of *Europe*, so the King did not doubt of his ready Concurrence in so good a Work, by employing his good Offices to those Princes, to induce them to a speedy Agreement, by disposing them to consent immediately to a Cessation of Arms, and the naming a Place for a Treaty. I then concluded with a Compliment to his Majesty, of the great Regard they would have to his Interposition, that there was all the Reason to believe it would soon procure a happy Peace in those Parts, which was so much wished for, &c. This was the Substance of what I said. The Answer this King made me was, that he was very glad he had already done what the King my Master desired, and that

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it has had that good Effect, that on his Consideration the King of *Poland* had withdrawn his Cannon from the Batteries against *Riga*, that he looked upon it as a kind of Suspension of Arms; and he did not doubt, but with the Assistance of the King my Master, they should soon compose those Differences. That he would continue to do all he could to obtain that end, which I might assure the King my Master of. After this I discoursed again with M. *de Torcy*, and I cannot but think they do here sincerely wish that those Matters were composed; and I do the more think so, because it is believed that the King of *Spain* is dead; and M. *de Torcy* told me, that the King of *Poland* had already declared that he was willing to agree to the Re-establishment of the Treaty of *Oliva*; but I find he does explain it in a different manner from the *Swedes*, which M. *de Torcy* said must be left to be considered at the Treaty. The Explanation, which the King of *Poland* makes, is, that the Forts on the other side of the *Duna* do belong to him. It is well if he be sincere, or will continue so, now we have certain News that the *Moscovites* are near *Nerva*. M. *de Torcy* said it was hard to deal with such Men, but if it was necessary, he believed the King would send a Minister to the Czar. He feared that the greatest Difficulty will be to persuade the King of *Sweden*; for tho' Monf. *de Guiscard* had not proposed this method to that King, yet he had done it to his Ministers, who seemed to think it would be a Proposal not agreeable to their Master. I shall take care to solicit this Affair in the best manner I can; and as it will be proper to let me know what Progress you make on your side, so I will acquaint you with what Success I have here.

I desire you will let His Majesty know that Monf. *Spanheim*, Envoy of the Elector of *Brandenburg*, has assured this Court, in the Name of his Master, that he is not engaged, by any Conditions, to give Forces to the Emperor, and that he does accept the Neutrality, in relation to the Treaty of the Succession of *Spain*.

You will have already heard that the *Spanish* Ambassador, and the Emperor's Minister have had Letters of the 5th and the 6th. They seem to contradict each other; only they both agree that the King of *Spain* was not then dead. Since the 28th of *September*, the *French* Envoy has not wrote, which makes them conclude here, that the King is dead, and that they have stopped his Couriers, which by his former Letters he seemed to fear. Monf. *de Torcy* tells me that there must be some such thing, he having been very exact in writing ever since Monf. *de Harcourt* left *Madrid*, who is now here, ready to go for *Catalonia*, as soon as they have some Account. I suppose this will find you at the *Hague*. When we have the Certainty of the King of *Spain's* Death, the King will first know it from M. *de Tallard*, which will hinder me from sending an Express, unless I have some other Reason.

This Court is in Mourning, and it is well observed, which I was pleased to see. I have this King's Letters for the Prince and Princess of *Denmark*, which I shall send to *England*. I hope His Majesty will approve of what I have done, which will be a great Pleasure to him, who is very sincerely, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, October 17. 1700.

WE have as yet no account of the Death of the King of *Spain* that can be relied on, tho' it is generally believed that we shall soon hear it; and I find they are here taking their Measures, as if it was actually so. Monf. *de Harcourt* is not yet gone for *Catalonia*, and I am apt to think he will stay 'till another Courier arrives. Last Night they received here Letters from the *French* Envoy at *Madrid* of the 30th past, by the ordinary Post of *Navarre*, and then the King was not dead, but there were small Hopes of his Recovery. The *Spanish* Ambassador here has Letters of the 5th and 6th, and says the King was then better, but they do not give much credit to it here.

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I have had an Audience of the King about the Affairs of *Liefland*. He did assure me he would contribute all he could to bring matters to a Composition. The Account we have of the *Moscovites* makes me fear that War will not end so soon, nor so well as could be wished, and may be the King of *Poland* is not so sincere as they take him to be here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, Oct. 17. 1700.

I Gave you yesterday an Account of my Audience, which I sent to *Paris*; this goes strait from hence, so that I do not know if it will come safe to your Hands. They have now received Letters here from the *French* Envoy at *Madrid*, by way of *Navarre*. They are of the 30th past, and then the King was rather better; but there were little Hopes of his Recovery. We are in expectation of a Courier every day. I am told that the King of *Spain* has left the Government to the Queen, jointly with several of the Council, 'till there is a Successor: but nevertheless it is expected that there will be a great Confusion at *Madrid*. They are going to raise eighteen Millions of Livres on the *Hotel de Ville* at five per Cent. *M. de Harcourt* is not yet gone. *M. de Boufflers* is going for *Flanders* to hold the Meeting of the States there, where he will be also near if there be occasion.

The *Venetian* Ambassador has told me, in the Name of the Republick, that *Mr. Mocenigo*, their Ambassador, would soon depart for *England*, and that he desired I would procure him a Passport from the King. I suppose it is what is usual, and I design to write to *Mr. Secretary Vernon*, who will expect the King's Orders thereupon. I shall, as often as I can, let you know what passes here, where I intend to stay 'till there is some certain Account from *Madrid*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, October 18. 1700.

I Have yours of the 30th past, wherein you take notice of the Effects that were in the *Dantzick* Ships, that were seized by the *French*. The Deputies are soon expected; but I am sorry those Merchants have not sent what they promised, which was an Account of every particular Parcel that belonged to them, and the Value, which they might do by their Bills of Lading. They also sent me word, that it should be certified by the Chief of the Town of *Dantzick*. If they have it, I desire they will send it me in *French*; for there are such Terms, proper in those Matters, that I am not versed in. The Reason why this is necessary is, that whatever Satisfaction we obtain, the Town of *Dantzick* will be obliged to make it good. Hitherto they will not believe here, but that we had little or nothing, that our Claim was only to cover the Effects of others; and how to make them believe, unless I have something of this nature, I know not. I intend to remind *M. de Torcy* of this matter, and I am of opinion that, if we lose this Opportunity, there will be nothing more to be done. This Affair was solicited by my Lord *Jersey*, and since that I have pressed it, and I shall continue to do the same.

The *Venetian* Ambassador was to see me, to desire, in the Name of the Republick, a Passport for their Ambassador, who is a coming for *England*, as you will see by the inclosed Paper, which he gave me. I am apt to think that this is to convince the King that he is to set out soon, in hopes that His Majesty should name one to the Republick. Besides, if the King of *Spain* should die, they would think it proper to have him soon at *London*. I have acquainted *Mr. Blathwayt* with this, who it may be will let you know His Majesty's Pleasure: but I believe the King will be soon himself in *England*.

I have Reasons to think that the Elector of *Brandenburg* will be soon proclaimed King of *Prussia*. He does not intend to take the Investiture from the Emperor, and his Minister here has also assured this Court, that his Master is under no Engagements to assist him with Troops, but he does agree to a Neutrality, in relation to the Treaty with *Spain*. He did intimate to me, as if I am to have Orders to facilitate his being acknowledged by the King here. If so, this is done with the King our Master's Approbation, whereas, hitherto, I did believe, he had endeavoured to dissuade the Elector from it.

I have inclosed the Paper I mentioned to you in my last. I found it very hard to get, because King *James* gave it only to those publick Ministers that are of his own Religion; and it is not approved of, even by them, by reason there cannot accrue any Advantage to their Persuasion by such indifferent Arguments.

I have the *French* King's Letters to the Prince and Princess of *Denmark*, in answer to theirs. I have sent them already to my Secretary at *Paris* by a Servant, lest they should miscarry. I hope all that matter is now ended to the Princess's Satisfaction. I assure you that the Mourning is strictly observed. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 7. 1700. O.S.

I Just now receive your Excellency's Letters of the 29th of *September*, and the 9th and 13th instant. The first is a Copy. I suppose they will satisfy your Excellency at the Post-House what they have done with the Original. They don't sure allow the Court of *St. Germain's* to command Letters out of their Mails. We can expect nothing else now but to hear the Confirmation of the King of *Spain's* Death. I hope the Emperor's Envoy has a private Instruction to declare his Master's Acceptance of the Treaty; for I suppose they are satisfied, that neither by their Friends in *Spain*, nor by their own Force, shall they be able to make so good a Bargain for themselves.

I can't imagine what they propose to themselves at *St. Germain's* by reprinting the Accounts of King *Charles* and the Dutchess of *Tork* dying Catholics. I know not what use it may be of abroad, but it will do them no good here; and therefore when those Papers are published, I hope your Excellency will send over a good Parcel of them by two or three succeeding Posts; and if your Secretary would direct some to any of his Acquaintances that are out of the Office, it would not do amiss. Some People need convincing, or having their Memories refreshed as to the Religion King *Charles* died of.

I am glad you got so well over your Notification. You have made a very proper Excuse, which I suppose no body can take amiss.

I have no more to say in *Monf. de Tortie's* Business. I told him, when he was so importunate, that it could have no better an Issue.

I should be glad to know when Sir *Nathaniel* comes away, and which way he takes. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, Oct. 21. 1700.

I Have little to acquaint you with, only that there are now Letters come by the ordinary Post of the 8th, and then the King of *Spain* was better, but not out of danger; it is thought he must be on the mending hand, because no Courier has passed since. The Emperor's Envoy has received the Answer to the Proposal that was made by *Monf. de Villars* some time since. The Emperor does consent not to send any Troops into *Italy* other than Recruits for some Regiments that are there: but there are also some other

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Conditions, which I do not doubt but His Majesty is already informed of. The said Envoy was to have had an Audience of the King this Day on that Subject: but as the Answer is not very well approved of here, he has deferred it for some time, and is gone to *Paris* to meet *Monf. Aversberg*, in his way to *Spain*. I am of opinion, that he hopes to have from him some more light in that Matter: but I cannot see how that can be, as long as they take such Measures as they do at *Vienna*.

I hope His Majesty is arrived at the *Hague* in good Health, and that I shall soon have the good News of his being safe in *England*. I desire you will make my Compliments to my Lord Chamberlain. If there had been any thing material, I should have wrote to him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. Since mine of the 16th, I have discoursed with the Envoy of *Poland* about the two Forts built on the side of *Courland*, that by the Treaty of *Oliva* were to be settled Limits, which was never done. This is the Pretence: but he seemed to think that if the Republick of *Poland* did not think fit to engage in that matter, the King would not insist on it. I did not understand it so well before, which made me not so clear in what I wrote about.

To Mr. CRESSET.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, Oct. 21. 1700.

I Believe you are impatient to hear what becomes of the King of *Spain*, after the Account we have had so often of his Death. There has been no Courier lately, and the Letters that came this Day by the Post are of the 8th, and then the King was better, tho' not out of danger; and because we have none of a late Date, we judge he continues much the same.

I have had an Audience of this King about the Affairs of *Livonia*, and I have all the Assurances from his Majesty that he will do all that lies in his power to compose those Differences. They believe here the King of *Poland* to be sincere, and disposed to Peace; in case *Sweden* is so too, we may soon hear it is made: unless the *Moscovites* have other Designs, and are resolved to keep *Nerva*, which we take for granted they have taken by this time. I wonder the *Swedes* have been so negligent in an Affair of so great a consequence to them.

I believe you have little better Success in the grand Affair than you had a while ago, but it may be they will at last all agree to a Neutrality. I should be glad to know if any thing is done in relation to the Fort *de Hitter* upon the *Elbe*; as that matter is referred to *England*, *France*, and *Holland*, the *Danish* Envoy does all he can to engage this Court, that it may not be demolished, and would have me write, which I do not intend to do. He pretends that it was never complained of. I know not how the King our Master is disposed, but you seem to write as if the Merchants at *Hamburg* thought it of great disservice to them, and that it might be a great Obstruction to the Trade of the *Elbe*. I have some reason to think that the Elector of *Brandenburg* will soon be proclaimed King of *Prussia*. The Engagements that were said he was under to the Emperor prove otherwise. I cannot tell how the other Princes of *Germany* will like it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Copy of this Day's Letter to Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Göer, October 21. 1700.

I Received yesterday a Letter from the Marquis *de Bonac* at *Wolfenbuttel*, which informs me of his having changed his Resolution of coming to this Court so soon, but he says he will meet it at his Return to *Zell*.

M m m

The

The Duke *Antony* is come back from *Saxony*, fuller of Intrigue than ever. The General *Berensthorf*, Brother to this Chief Minister, came hither last Night with a Compliment from the Duke of *Brunswick Rudolf August*, but he had not the least Civility in Commission from Duke *Antony*; and indeed this sort of Correspondence serves rather to widen than to make up the Breach of Friendship in this Family. I am convinced that ill-intentioned Ministers, for private ends, still labour to make these Differences continue as long as they can, and it is not to be doubted but that *France* will still blow the Coals.

Monf. *Berensthorf*, this first Minister, is gone to *Harbourg*, where M. *Plessen* is expected to pass suddenly in his way toward *Copenhagen*. They are both desirous to have some discourse together, and I believe it is necessary for the mutual Interest of their respective Courts. The *Danes* do really begin the old game again of plaguing *Zell* and *Hanover* by all indirect means they can think of, wherein Count *Chamilly*, the *French* Ambassador, is of great use to them.

My Lord,

I cannot send any thing with my Acknowledgments for your Excellency's last favour of the 10th instant, but what you see in my short Dispatch. We live in a curious Age, and may see strange things before we die. I heartily wish Health and Prosperity to your Excellency, and am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Oct. 21. 1700.

I Have received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 3d instant, and I thank you for the Care and the quick Dispatch you gave to those for the King our Master, and for the Earl of *Jersey*. I also congratulate you on your happy Recovery, hoping that Heaven will establish it more and more.

It seems that the 8th has been the Day we call here Critical in Sickneses, because that was properly the time that the King gave probable Proofs of mending. In effect his Looseness is so much abated since that time, that his Health is grown better daily; so that if no Relapse or unforeseen Accident comes across, the Physicians judge unanimously that he is absolutely out of danger. In the mean while, his Majesty suffered himself to be persuaded, (when he was in the highest of his Illness, that is, on the 3d instant) to sign a Testamentary Disposition in favour of the second Son of the Dauphin: but since he is better, he shews such an Indignation against those who, under pretence of Conscience, persuaded him to make this Step, that he is grown diffident of all his Ministers; insomuch that he has even recalled the Power given to the Secretary of State for the universal Dispatches, relating to the most pressing Affairs which he had trusted, during the greatest Violence of his Illness, to three or four Counsellors of State, in conjunction with the said Secretary; His Majesty not thinking it proper to confide in those, who inspired him with a Resolution to make a Will. I am, &c.

SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, Oct. 22. 1700.

WE have this day Letters from *Madrid* of the 8th, by the ordinary Post. The *Spanish* Ambassador has one of the 9th, and his Depeche is signed by the King himself, as several others were that are sent into *Italy*. I suppose this was done to convince them the more that he was in a way of Recovery; but you will find by the inclosed that there is little hopes of it. We have had

had no Courier of late, which since that time would have come in case of any Alteration. That which occasions the greatest Discourse is his Will, which he signed on the 3d, by all the Letters it is thought in favour of one of the Princes of *France*; and as to the Persons concerned, and who were Witnesses to it, it is certain they have been ever that way disposed, to prevent their Monarchy's being dismembred. Some Letters do also say, that since that the Queen has prevailed with him, to add a Codicil, that some that were named for the Regency are changed; at least the Queen seemed after that very easy. In short these are all Conjectures, and I am of opinion that it will not be known what it contains 'till the King's Death.

The Emperor's Envoy is gone to *Paris* to meet Count *Aversberg* in his way for *Spain*, who it is believed has some farther Instructions; and it may be, in case the King of *Spain* was dead, the Emperor has given Orders to declare he accepts the Treaty, tho' with some few Alterations. I cannot but think that he has no other way to take, unless he has a mind to lose the whole. We shall now soon see how our Parliament will behave in this Affair. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, October 22. 1700.

THE King arrived here last Night, and tho' that always occasions a great hurry, yet I cannot omit acknowledging and returning my humble Thanks for your Excellency's Favour of the 17th instant from *Fontainebleau*, and a former a little before from *Paris*. His Majesty questioned me this Morning what News of the King of *Spain*. I had not then received your Advices, but answered Him to the same purpose by what Don *Quiros* had communicated to me. He intends to embark for *England* on Wednesday next, if Wind and Weather permit; tho' it is probable an Express, with what we fear from *Spain*, may keep him here some days longer, that being the important Affair now on foot in *Europe*: yet whether in order to that His Majesty's Presence here, or in *England*, be of greater concern, I shall submit to greater Statesmen to determine. Mons. Don *Quiros* sets a good face on a bad Game, says the *Milicias* of *Spain*, in the Memory of Man, made the Prince of *Condé*, as great a Captain as the Marquis *de Harcourt*, raise the Siege of *Font-Arabie* with dishonour, tho' he had Fifty Thousand Men all regular Troops; and he promises himself no less Bravery from the present *Spaniards*, in a Cause where their Honour, as well as their Monarchy, is at stake. This way of Reasoning seems to us very extraordinary, and I am obliged at the same time to do him justice, in saying he has as little of that Rhodomontade Humour as any of his Countrymen I have ever known.

We have two *Polish* Ministers here, who proclaim every where their Master's Forwardness to a Peace with *Sweden*, and I am not so much averse to believe it, since some Discourses I have heard from the Czar's Ambassador, magnifying the Power of his Master, who comes with one Hundred Thousand Men, and four Hundred Pieces of Cannon, and other warlike Preparations in proportion; that the King of *Poland* has few Troops, and those starving and unable to act, for want of Money and all Necessaries; that he would not have it thought the Czar comes as an Auxiliary to the King of *Poland*, but as Principal on his own account for himself, to whom *Livonia* of Right belongs. If the King of *Poland* suspects this, it is no wonder he should be willing to get out of a War, in which he will certainly be the Dupe, and get nothing but Shame for his Folly.

Our two Electresses will be here to-morrow, and they say that the of *Hanover* designs for *England*: if so, no body doubts but it is to solicit for her Son, to recommend him to the Parliament's good Graces; but in order to that very end, it may be she would do him more service by staying at home. Sir

George

George Rook came here yesterday, after having rid out at Anchor nine Days a most furious Storm, within three Leagues of Land. It is supposed the *Cleveland Yacht* is lost, all the rest of the Ships are come in safe, with little Damage. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, October 22. 1700.

THE Honour of your Excellency's Letters of the 4th and 11th has been followed by those of the 16th and 17th, giving an Account of the Audiences your Lordship has had at *Fontainebleau*, as well in relation to the Death of the late Duke of *Gloucester*, as the Affairs of *Poland* and *Sweden*; wherein your Lordship has had satisfactory Answers, and all the Success that could be desired.

I have acquainted my Lord *Albemarle* with what your Excellency writ about the further Payment of what is due for the Principality of *Orange*, and his Lordship will have given the necessary Orders therein.

We continue in great Expectation how the great Crisis of the King of *Spain's* Sickness will turn; and I will with the first Opportunity let His Majesty know what *Monf. Spanheim* says relating to the Treaty of the *Spanish* Succession, which is very different from what the Elector and his Ministers have held forth at *Berlin*.

The inclosed will inform your Lordship of His Majesty's intended Motions, which is all at present. I am, &c.

W. BLATHWAYT.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, October 22. 1700.

AFTER having sent my Dispatches of the 21st instant to the Post, I just now learn that the Catholick King, angry at those who were present at the signing of the former Will in favour of a second Son of the Dauphin, made them all come before his Royal Person, and he has signed another Will that was closed up: some say that it was only a Codicil relating to the first Testamentary Disposition, &c. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Fontainebleau, October 24. 1700.

WE have been expecting every day to hear the Death of the King of *Spain*: but your Lordship will see by the inclosed that he is rather better, it being the best Account that is come. I have had none from *Mr. Schonenberg* this Post, which I wonder at. The *Spanish* Ambassador has a Letter signed by the King himself, as others were that went into *Italy*. Notwithstanding all this, *Monf. de Harcourt* set out yesterday for *Catalonia*, and the Troops are marching on that side. *Monf. la Prata*, chief Engineer under *Monf. de Vauban*, went some days before. The Emperor's Envoy is gone to *Paris* to meet *Count Aversberg* in his way to *Spain*. I found by him that he was in hopes to have some further Instructions. I do not know what they mean at *Vienna*, for all Letters do agree that the Will, which the King of *Spain* has made, is in favour of a Prince of *France* for the whole Succession. Whether we shall agree to that, is another question, if *France* was willing to accept of it. I suppose you have had work enough with the *Count de la Tour*. His Master would fain find his Account in this Affair, as I perceive by his Minister; and the common Report is, that he would give *Savoy* to *France*,
in

in lieu of *Naples*, which they will hardly persuade them to with all their Rhetorick.

I hope this will come to you before the King leaves the *Hague*. I intend to continue here 'till the latter end of next Week. I fear I shall be soon obliged to desire your Lordship would so represent my Affairs to His Majesty, that I may have some Payment out of the Treasury. The Lords there follow a Scheme they have made, and I suffer by. As long as I can possibly go on, I shall not complain. Out of Five Thousand Five Hundred Pounds due to me, they have ordered Thirteen Hundred, which will not be paid neither 'till the Beginning of *November*, O. S. when there will be another Quarter due. I leave your Lordship to judge how uneasy this must be to me, in case some Care be not taken. Certainly the few Ministers that are abroad might be made very easy, if the Lords of the Treasury would mind it. I will not enlarge on this Subject, since I do not doubt of your Lordship's Assistance and Favour. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, Oct. 24. 1700.

I Thought you would be glad to know all the Particulars of what the last Post brought from *Spain*, which you will see in the inclosed. Notwithstanding all that, and that the King of *Spain* is thought to be better, yet *Monf. de Harcourt* went yesterday to *Catalonia*, as *Monf. la Prata*, the chief Engineer under *Monf. Vauban*, did some Days before. I cannot think that King can recover of his Illness, tho' he may last yet some time. I doubt not but His Majesty is now at the *Hague*, and hope you will find Him in good Health, which is the best News we can hear of. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 14. 1700. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 18th. I immediately sent the King of *France's* Letters for the Prince and Princess to *Windsor*, under Cover to Mr. *Griffith*.

We will make the Pass ready for the *Venetian* Ambassador to be laid before the King at his Arrival here, which will be the shortest way of getting it dispatch'd, since we hear the King intends to embark on Wednesday next; so that if the Wind stands as fair as it is now, I believe His Majesty will lie at *Canterbury* on Thursday next, and at *Hampton-Court* on Friday, it being now declared that he will go directly thither.

Mr. *Ellis* will give notice to the Merchants, who had Effects in the *Dantzick* Ships, that they should satisfy your Excellency in the Particulars you require.

I am obliged to you for the printed Paper, which I shall be as communicative of as I can, and don't apprehend it will make Converts.

I thought the Elector of *Brandenburg* had laid aside the Design of his Royalty, not having heard any thing of it this good while. Methinks he chuses an ill time for it, while an Inundation of *Moscovites* threatens that Country near as much as *Livonia*.

I have got Mr. *Lewis's* second Letter decyphered, which contains some very remarkable Particulars. I have taken the best Care I can to speak with those mentioned in both his Letters.

We have nothing of moment stirring here. At the King's Arrival, People expect to hear of a Lord Privy-Seal, and a new Secretary, and when the Parliament shall meet, whether the same or a new one; which in the mean time they speak differently of, every one according to his fancy.

N n n

The

The Duke of *Shrewsbury* is fallen into a violent Fit of bleeding at his House at *Grafton*, which never happened to him before in the Country. I think this must needs hinder his coming up to Town so soon as he intended. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Fontainebleau, Oct. 26. 1700.

HERE is a Courier arrived from *Madrid* in his way to *Vienna*. He has brought Letters to the Emperor's Envoy of the 17th at Night, when the King of *Spain* was still better, and his Physicians did not doubt but in a few days they might declare that he was perfectly recovered; and that the Ministers, at the Courts where they reside, might notify this, &c. and that at *Madrid* they were preparing great Demonstrations of Joy. Notwithstanding all this, there is none come from *Monf. Blecourt*, so that there is not all the Credit given to it here, as if it came from him. I am apt to believe it is true, but nevertheless this Winter he will be subject to such Relapses as will carry him off at last.

I have inclosed the Reasons the Czar gives for declaring War against *Sweden*. It may be you have them already. I had it from the Envoy of *Poland*. We hear also that the King of *Sweden* is gone in person to *Livonia*. The number of his Forces is uncertain. I fear he will not find this so easy as the Voyage to *Denmark*. I do not doubt but you have been informed by Mr. *Cresset* concerning *Hutter-Fort* on the *Elbe*, which the *Danes* have by the Articles of the last Peace; whether it shall be demolished or no, is left to the decision of *England*, *France*, and *Holland*. Their Envoy here does what he can to dispose *France* to decide it in favour of them. He has spoke also to me, and pressed me to write. I cannot yet forget how I was lately served, and I told him that I was a perfect Stranger to that matter, so I did not see what good it would do. In short, if you think it proper to take notice of it when the King comes over, and let me have your thought, it may be convenient. At the end of this Week I shall be at *Paris*, and then I shall have been here above a Fortnight. I can easily return, as I find occasion. I cannot find yet why mine of the 29th did not come to your hands.

I have put M. *de Torcy* in mind of his Promise concerning our Effects taken by M. *du Bart*, and I find him the same: but he hopes I will also speak to the Deputies when they are here. So that it will be necessary, that what we assert, we may also prove. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Copenhagen, Oct. 26. 1700.

I Had the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 11th by the last Post, and long to hear whether the King of *Spain* has got over the last Fit, which some of the Foreign Ministers here seem to be hopeful of. There has been little progress made in the Business of the King of *Denmark's* entering into the Treaty of *Partage*, since His Majesty's Return from *Holstein*, by reason first of the *French* Ambassador's Absence, then the King's Sickness, and now the Ambassador himself is dangerously ill of a continued Fever. By the Discourse of the Ministers of this Court upon this Subject, it appears that their Promises made in *Holstein* of their entering into the Guaranty of the said Treaty were only understood, *moyenant un concert prealable*, at which Concert they may raise as many Difficulties as they please; so that the said Promises have not much advanced the matter. I suppose they have a mind to bring in some Clauses to their own advantage into the said Concert, in reference to the old Debts due to them from the Crown of *Spain*, or the like.

Hitherto

Hitherto we have no Orders for any Concert, but simply about the King's Accession to the Treaty, in the same manner as His Majesty and the States are already engaged in it, which this Court does not hitherto seem to be inclined to yield to so easily, without some advantageous Conditions for themselves; which they have not yet proposed, there being no full Power as yet from His Majesty, as at first that from the States was also wanting, but now the *Holland* Resident has got it.

This King is now in very good Health, tho' pretty much marked with the Small-Pox. The Queen Mother is at her Palace in *Nicoping* in the Isle of *Fulster*, but all the rest of the Royal Family are here.

Some Ships have brought the News to the *Sound*, that *Narva* was taken last Week by the *Moscovites* with sword in hand; but this I do not give much credit to, till further Confirmation. This King has newly promised, at the instance of His Majesty and the States, to use his best Offices with the Kings of *Sweden* and *Poland*, in order to a speedy Accommodation: but the six Thousand Men he is going to send into *Saxony*, are not likely to forward it, but rather to encourage the King of *Poland* to continue the War, who will draw as many *Saxons* no doubt out of the Country, as there come *Danes* into it; tho' here it is pretended that these are only designed for preserving the Peace of the Empire, which they say is threatened with a *Swedish* Invasion; which, it is like, was once really intended, but now I suppose, by the Persuasion of His Majesty and others, the *Swedes* have desisted from that Design. I am, &c.

H. GREG.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, Octob. 26. 1700.

I Have received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 11th instant, and lay hold of the Opportunity of returning my most humble thanks for it, by a Courier, whom the M. *de Villars* will dispatch hence to-day, altho' there is no Answer given to the new Invitation made by the contracting Parties to the Emperor, to come into the Treaty of Division, before which it cannot be said positively what his Imperial Majesty will conclude upon. Your Excellency judges very justly that it appears to be his Interest to accept the Offer, when the Condition of his Affairs is considered: but his having refused it before, and the King of *Spain* being in some measure recovered, make it probable that he will answer again in the negative. Nevertheless it's invisible what Measures are taken to fence off the Blow. It's true, there have been many Consultations, but either nothing is concluded in them, or no Conclusion executed. And yet one sees very little Emotion in the Imperial Family, at all the alarming News of the King of *Spain's* desperate Illness, which would persuade one that they very leisurely expected another Miracle to be wrought in their favour. If the Offer be made them after the King of *Spain's* Death, perhaps the seeing themselves evidently unable to withstand the Execution of the Treaty, may force them to yield to it, tho' their Aversion to it be so great, that it must be a great stress to bring them to it. They have rather chosen hitherto to abandon themselves to Providence and Chance. They seem to flatter themselves that their Steadiness will make some impression, and procure them fairer Offers. The Dutchy of *Milan*, the Marquisate of *Final*, and the *Stato delli Presidii* would in all likelihood buy their Consent; and they would rejoice heartily at the bottom to see them added to the Arch-Duke's Share, to which they would join themselves the Dutchy of *Mantua* after the Duke's Death. I am afraid they are not likely to be gratified in their desire: but they seem to think that rather than enter into a chargeable War, his most Christian Majesty will enlarge their Portion. Your Lordship will be more easily and better informed than I, of what Disposition there may be thereto.

Your

Your Excellency will observe by the following Account in what Condition this Court is to oppose the Execution of the Treaty. They have discourf'd a good while of remounting and recruiting their Troops, and give out that they have Money ready for it. I can scarce believe they have Money fufficient for remounting according to their own reckoning, and a great part of the Colonels will not undertake the Work at the rates the Court offers. Yet it's faid that Affignations are delivered to fome of them. Their Troops would amount to Seventy Thoufand Men, if they were compleat: but they are far from it, and the Cavalry half difmounted. They cannot difpenfe themfelves from having near Thirty Thoufand Men in *Hungary* and *Transylvania*. Their Places upon the *Rhine* are very thinly garrifoned, and will never be well furnifhed or repaired, tho' there be fome Artillery paffed by from *Buda* towards *Briſac*. They have no Forces near *Italy*, and very few within a great diftance of it in *Quarters*. The Emperor is between Twenty and Thirty Millions of Florins in debt, and pays extravagant Intereft. It has been discourf'd that the Hereditary Countries would take the Payment of the Debts upon them. I do not find any certainty thereof: but if it ſhould happen, there muſt be a Term of years allowed for it, and they will ſcarce be able to give the Emperor any further Aid. The Chamber of Finances is in ſo bad a Reputation, that they have no credit, and have had much ado for a long time to fupply the Emperor's Neceſſities. I do not hear of any Recruits that are yet making, tho' I hearken after it: but peradventure in two Months they may begin to make them, and they muſt begin ſome time, otherwiſe they will ſhortly have no Troops at all. In fine, my Lord, it is apparent, that whenever the King of *Spain* comes to die, this Court will be found unprepared to make any great Reſiſtance, as I believe any body, that is acquainted with the preſent Conſtitution thereof, would eaſily own. But they will preſume things cannot go worſe for them than according to the Diſpoſition of the Treaty. They now hold daily Conferences. We ſhall ſhortly ſee the Reſult of them. I have asked Audience three Days together, and cannot yet have one to deliver the King's Orders. I ſhould be glad to have the honour to hear from your Excellency how the Conduſt of this Court is conſidered in *France*. I confeſs it ſurprizes me. The Courier going away this inſtant, I have only left time to aſſure you, that I am with all reſpect, &c.

R. SUTTON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Octob. 27. 1700.

I Find myſelf obliged to recommend moſt humbly to the Zeal and Goodneſs of your Excellency the incloſed, wherein I inform the King our Maſter, and the States-General, of the Relapſe of the Catholick King; whoſe Loofeneſs is ſo much increaſed ſince Monday laſt, that the quickneſs of his Stools do ſcarce give time to take him from the Sheets of his Bed: this ſtubborn Relapſe has alarmed all the Court, and put all the Miniſters themſelves into a Conſternation, they deſpairing of the good Iſſue of this Sickneſs. I repeat the Offers of my Services, &c. and am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Off. 30. 1700.

SINCE my Letter of the 29th miſcarried, I have directed all mine under cover to Mr. *Yard*; ſo that going to a contrary Office, if it was done at the Poſt-Houſe, they would be obliged to open both the Packets. Beſides, as that Letter was under cover to Mr. *Ellis*, whoſe Brother is at *St. Germains*, I cannot

cannot tell but by mistake that Packet may have been sent to him; for, as I hear, the Packet sent to Mr. *Tard* by the same Post came safe. I do assure you I have no reason in the least to suspect Mr. *Ellis* in your Office on any account: but it may be convenient for the future to send the Packets to Mr. *Hopkins*, or Mr. *Tard*, as you shall think best.

Madame *de Verue*, Mistress to the Duke of *Savoy*, left *Turin*, by the persuasion of her Relations, with only her Brother and the Chevalier *de Laine*, who came privately thither on that Design. She is now in a Convent called *Porte Royale*, near *Versailles*. The Duke of *Savoy* seemed very angry when he heard she was gone, but said he would not send after her. What is generally said on this matter is, that she was very desirous to lead another sort of a Life than she has done: but it is certain also, that the Duke of *Savoy* had that confidence in her, that she knows all his Designs, and so I am apt to think she will be of some use here. I hear that the two Posts that were wanting are come. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Oct. 31. 1700.

THE Relapse of the Catholick King, which returned on the 25th of this Month, and which I mentioned in my Letter of the 27th, being increased the 29th to such a Point, that his Majesty was near the Agony; they gave him the same Day the extreme Unction, and after that he appointed, by a formal Commission under the Privy-Seal, the Cardinal *Portocarrero* Governor during his Illness, or (in case of Death) till the opening of his Testament, over all the Vassals of the Monarchy, as well for the politick as the military Affairs, without any Exception or Reserve: besides this, his Majesty dispatched circular Orders for the calling back of all the Lords banished from the Court. In the mean while, all hopes of Recovery seem to be vanished, since a Fever, accompanied with an Oppression of the Lungs, are join'd to the King's other Distempers. Whilst I am finishing this at four in the Afternoon, I hear that the King has a new Attack of a violent Fever, and under such Symptoms that his Majesty will not outlive the Night. I give advice of all this by the inclosed, as well to the King our Master as to the States, &c. I am, &c.

SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, Oct. 21. 1700. O. S.

ACKNOWLEDGING from this place your Excellency's Letters of the 22d and 26th instant, you will be satisfied that His Majesty is arrived here. He landed at *Harwich* on Friday Night, the Wind not being fair to carry him to *Margate*. His Majesty lay on Saturday at *Chelmsford*, and came hither last Night in very good Health. God continue it!

I have not yet had Opportunity to lay your Letters before His Majesty, but I venture before-hand to desire your Excellency to give no Encouragement to the *Danes* to hope they may keep *Hetherschans*. It is a great Bridle on the Trade of *Hamburg*, and the *English* Merchants residing there, are as uneasy at it as any others. In which Consideration, I believe Mr. *Cresset* was the Person that proposed the inserting it into the Treaty of *Travendale*. He would have had the immediate Demolition agreed to, but that was put off by referring it to an Arbitration. Mr. *Cresset* and the *Dutch* have been pressing for a Determination; but I understand the *French* have declined it from the Beginning, and would excuse themselves from meddling, by desiring that there might be some other Arbitrator in their stead. I suppose the matter

ooo

rests

rests there at present, but you will best know on what Terms it stands from Mr. *Cresset*.

I had only time to acquaint His Majesty that the King of *Spain* was alive the 18th, and in a way of Recovery, which was News unexpected, after his having been so ill. His Majesty has appointed the Council to meet here tomorrow, to resolve to what time the Parliament shall be prorogued, which I suppose will be the 21st of next Month; but I know not whether the Occasion be now so urgent for their Sitting at that time. I believe His Majesty will make the Princess a Visit at *Windsor* on Wednesday, or Thursday. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 3. 1700.

I Must desire the favour of you to let His Majesty know that the inclosed from Mr. *Schonenberg* of September 29. did not come to me 'till Monday last. I found by his to me, that it was of an old Date, and so required no haste. It came in a Packet to M. *de Torcy*, and I cannot think he had received it sooner, else I should have had it at *Fontainebleau*; but I rather believe that Mons. *de Blecourt* did not send it then as he promised, but that it came by the Post of *Navarre*. It is said here, that the King of *Spain* is better, and that his Physicians had allowed him to drink Chocolate as formerly.

Before I left *Fontainebleau* I was with Mons. *de Torcy*, who, I find, is well satisfied with all the Proceedings in *Holland*. I must own that, during my stay there, the King took all Occasions to oblige me. You know already that Mons. *Calliere* is gone to the Duke of *Lorain*. The Duke of *Savoy* has declared that he will not act against the Treaty. His Ambassador here is now more in hopes than ever, that his Master will have some Advantage in the *Partage*; but I found by Mons. *de Torcy* that the *French* King was satisfied with the Division already made, and yet he would consent to any reasonable Alteration, if that was to make the King our Master easy. This was meant in relation to our Trade in the *Levant*, and I suppose that Mons. *de Tallard* has already told you as much. He arrived here on Monday late at Night, and the next Morning I was to wait on him. He expressed a great Sense of the King's Favours to him, that he was just going to *Fontainebleau* to give the King his Master all the Assurances imaginable of the Friendship of the King and of the States-General, which he could do with great Truth; in short, he seemed extremely pleased. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 3. 1700.

I Find by yours of the 17th, that the *French* Mail was not yet arrived. I am sorry the Duke of *Shrewsbury* is so ill again. Mons. *de Tallard* came hither on Monday Night, and went yesterday Morning for *Fontainebleau*. I was to wait on him. He is in very good Humour, and assures me, that since he had the Honour to know the King, he was never better than at present; which is the best News I can hear. It is wonderful to hear the many Reports we have often here, sometimes that he cannot live, and sometimes that he is dead. I am satisfied that some at Court believe the former. I do not mean the Ministers, but others at Court. It is not to be imagined how ignorant they are of all the things that pass in the World.

Three Days ago Mr. F——s G——m, Brother to the late Lord Pr——n, came over to *St. Germain*, and went away Post this Morning for *Flanders*, in order to embark for *England* in some of those Ports. It is believed that he is sent over by Sir C——M——e and other Parliament-Men, with Pro-

Proposals, in order to get the Succession settled upon the pretended Prince of *Wales* on certain Conditions. Mr. G—m told the Person, who gave me this Information, that several Members would propose a Vote to the House, not to assist the King in the Execution of the Treaty, &c.

Here are Letters from *Madrid* of the 22d past, by an Express, which say that on the 21st the King of *Spain* made a new Will, in favour of the Arch-Duke. That he called those that were present, and had persuaded him in his Sickness to make the former in favour of the second Son of the Dauphin, and shewed a very great Dislike to what they had done, signing in their presence another. This last Action has still increased the Factions and Discontents here. I have no Particulars of the King of *Spain's* Health: but it is said he is better. To-morrow I shall have Letters by the Post, but they will be of the 21st only. There is not much to be expected by them. I send you another of the late King's Papers, which I had from the Nuncio. They are hard to be got. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lisbon, Nov. 4. 1700.

I Am honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the first of *October*, and have not had any Orders from His Majesty to notify the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death to this Court, but I have put myself and Family in Mourning on this Occasion.

The 13th of the last Month I received by an Express, which came from *Paris* to the *French* Ambassador, His Majesty's Commands to propose to the King of *Portugal* the Forms or Projects of two Acts of Accession and Admission, for his being comprehended in the Guaranty of the Treaty of Repartition, that of Accession to be signed by the King of *Portugal*, and that of Admission by His Majesty. I have at last prevailed with the King of *Portugal* to sign that of Accession, which will be sent to *England* by the same Express which carries this, so that the King of *Portugal* will be Guarantee of the Treaty for the Division of the *Spanish* Monarchy, without any particular Treaty or Convention with *England* or *Holland* for that purpose.

I beg your Excellency's pardon for the Liberty I have taken to send the inclosed under your Cover. I am, &c.

PAUL METHUEN.

My Lord,

Lisbon, Nov. 8. 1700.

The Acts of Accession and Admission having taken up more time in preparing than was expected, the *French* Ambassador has been forced to detain his Express 'till this Night.

The 6th instant we received the certain News of the King of *Spain's* Death. I am, &c.

PAUL METHUEN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, November 4. 1700.

I Hope that your Excellency will have received my two last, dated the 29th past, and the first of this Month, and sent by two extraordinary Couriers of the Envoy of *France*, and that you have had the Goodness to have sent away quickly the inclosed, which I hope you will continue as to the two Packets here inclosed, for the King our Master, whether he be in *Holland*, or set out on his Return for *England*. The same Evening, some Hours after the decease of his Catholick Majesty, they found, by the Opening of his Will, that

that the Duke of *Anjou* was by it instituted for universal Successor; and the Duke of *Berry*, after his Brother's Line shall be extinct; then the Arch-Duke *Charles* of *Austria*, and lastly the House of *Savoy*.

The Queen is, by virtue of this Testament, to enjoy, during her Life, a Dowry or Pension of four Hundred Thousand Duckats a Year, and to have in her own power all the Jewels that are not annexed to the Crown. Besides, she is left to chuse one of these four general Governments, *Flanders*, *Naples*, *Sicily*, or the *Milanese*. In case she thinks fit to stay in *Spain*, she may chuse for her Residence one of the principal Cities of the Kingdom.

Upon the News of the *French* Troops, which assemble towards the *Pyrenées*, the Court of *Madrid* has sent three Thousand Pistoles to the Governor of *Navarre*, and five Thousand to him of *Guipuscoa*, together with some reformed Officers; but that is not at all a proportionable Succour.

For the rest, every thing is pretty quiet here. If your Excellency has well received the two Packets above-mentioned, I beg you would send me a Word of Advice, that so I may be sure, and it is of great Importance for the Service of His Majesty, that I know whether the extraordinary Ways, I make use of on all Occasions, are exact and faithful.

The Body of the King having been opened, all the noble Parts were found to be very much corrupted, the Heart not being larger than an Egg of a Pigeon, and soft as Marl. The Liver was infected, and it contained a Stone of the Bigness of a Bean, and black like roasted Coffee. All the other Entrails, excepting the Spleen, are almost rotten. The Body has been embalmed, and is to be transported to-morrow to the Royal Tomb of the Escorial. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Monsieur DE LUBIERES.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 5. 1700.

YOU will excuse me for not answering your Letters sooner. I have had for some time so much Business, that it was impossible. Notwithstanding all this, I have not neglected that which regards you, nor the *French* established at *Orange* before the Peace. I am sorry to tell you, that at present I see no sort of likelihood of succeeding, and you deceive yourself in imagining that Mr. *Julieu* will have any credit in an Affair of this nature. Those People are truly to be pitied: but, without entering into all this detail of their Arguments, they do here insist upon it, that they are in the same Case with those in *England*, and they are not permitted to come into *France*. Since I have been here, I have strongly solicited it by Order of the King our Master, and he is very well satisfied of it. As for Mr. *Blisson*, I hope I shall obtain a Passport for him, having given my word that he shall not meddle with Affairs of Religion; and if he makes an ill use of it, he will put me in a condition never to speak any more in his favour. It is also to be wished, that when his Business obliges him to come into *France*, that he will let me know it: for he may be sure that they will take notice every way where he goes, and he must make Journeys as seldom as he can. I beg you would let him know my Sentiment upon this, and by those means they will not revoke the Permission, but otherwise it is to be feared. Mr. *Robethon* writes me, that the King is pretty well disposed to augment your Appointments, and I doubt not but they will soon be regulated. If there be found the least difficulty in it, I will not fail to write about it, and to make it succeed by one means or other; being very truly, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Zell, November 5. 1700.

AFTER returning my humble Acknowledgments to your Excellency for your last Favour of the 21st of *October*, which I received at *Goër*, you will please to accept of a Copy of what I write this Day to Mr. Secretary, which your Excellency may be assured is the best Information I am capable of giving from hence.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON. Extract.

— I mention'd in my last to your Honour, that Monsieur *Obdam* was come to the Court of *Zell*, pretending great haste to pass through the Courts of *Hanover*, *Wolfenbuttel*, and *Cassel*: but I fancy he may be detained some time longer at *Goër*. He has Credentials for all these Princes, and (probably) Orders to speak about the *Spanish* Succession; tho' his Highness the Duke of *Zell* (after having given him a long and formal Audience) was pleased to tell me himself, that Monsieur *Obdam* had said nothing to him about the Treaty of *Partage*. I have communicated to the said Mr. *Obdam* all that ever passed through my hands relating to that matter, for him to make the best use of it, and we shall soon meet again, either here or at *Hanover*. Monsieur *de Bonac* has sent me word, that he will come to *Zell*, so soon as the Court returns.

According to my Northern Intelligence, the Court of *Denmark* resolves to send some Forces into *Saxony*, in good earnest, and that the Duke of *Holstein Gottorff* will be suddenly in *Pomerania*. As for the *Swedish* Transport of Cavalry, methinks it is like to meet with some difficulty. The Court of *Berlin* (as 'tis confidently said) blows the Coals. I know not what game the *French* play in *Livonia*, but humbly conceive they forget not their old Maxims, more necessary than ever, in this Conjunction, to cut out work for all such Princes as might otherwise traverse great and vast Designs.—

I can only add to what is above, my hearty Wishes for your Excellency's constant Health and Prosperity. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 6. 1700.

I Have the favour of yours of the 21st past, with the good News of the King's Arrival. I am sorry for the Occasion that brings the Duke of *Shrewsbury* to *Montpelier*, but I hope I shall be so happy as to see him in his way at *Paris*. You will oblige me if you will let me know when he sets out.

As for *Hitter-Schans*, you may be assured I will not in the least concern myself; and whenever the Envoy of *Denmark* mentions it again, I will civilly let him know as much.

The Account we have from *Fontainebleau* is, that the King of *Spain* is very weak, and extream ill again, and not like to live any time. I have sent my Lord *Jersey* a Letter from Monf. *Schonenberg*, and there is also one for the King. I inclose what he writes to me, that you may better judge of it. The last Will, which the King of *Spain* made, and which I have already given you an account of, is kept here as a very great Secret, and there is no mention made of it at Court, tho' I am satisfied that it was the occasion of sending an Express. There may be Reasons for concealing it, 'till they see what the Emperor will do. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, November 8. 1700.
Eight in the Morning.

I Have this moment received Monf. *de Torcy's* Letter, of which I send you a Copy, with the Letters from Mr. *Schonenberg*. You will see that the next Courier must bring the News of the King of *Spain's* Death. I will not detain my Servant, having nothing more to inform you of. I am a going to *Fontainebleau*, and from thence you shall hear from me. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 28. 1700. O. S.

I Have given the King the two Letters from Monf. *Schonenberg*, and have laid before His Majesty your Lordship's of the 3d of *November*, N. S. which accompanied them. I am to acquaint your Lordship that there have been two Alterations made in favour of the Duke of *Savoy*. The first is, that *France* should have the Dutchy of *Savoy*, and the Kingdom of *Sicily*, the Duke of *Lorain* to have the Kingdom of *Naples*, and the Duke of *Savoy* to have *Milan* join'd to *Piedmont*. The other Alternative is, that *France* should have *Savoy* and *Piedmont*, the Duke of *Lorain* should have *Milan*, and the Duke of *Savoy*, *Naples* and *Sicily*. These Propositions came first from *La Tour*, but it is evident that *France* had before agreed to them; for Count *Tallard*, in the last Audience he had of the King, did own that the King of *France* was willing to accept of either of these Propositions, tho' he was not under any Engagement with the Duke of *Savoy*. The King told him, that he could not determine any thing in this matter, 'till he came to *England*, which is, you see, very far from the thing's being agreed on, as Count *Tallard* was pleased to tell you, and in this Language your Lordship may speak to Monf. *de Torcy*. I may tell you in confidence, that the King is most inclined to the first Proposition, that a means may be found to have *Sicily* otherwise disposed of than to *France*, which the King is endeavouring: but of this you are to take no kind of notice. The King does not know what Business *Lalaers* can have in *Lorain*, except it be about these Alterations.

As to what you write about *Brandenburg*, the King would have your Lordship make no step at all 'till further Orders.

We have News that the King of *Spain* is relapsed, but give not much credit to it.

His Majesty has been pleased to renew His Orders to me, that I should correspond with you in what regards the great Affair; which will give me a more frequent occasion of assuring you that I am with great Respect, &c.

JERSEY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 28. 1700. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 3d of *November*, N. S. and have laid that and your former Letter of the 30th of *October* before His Majesty, having first decyphered them.

The Council of Trade have represented to His Majesty the Accounts they have received from the Earl of *Bellemont* of the great Complaints made by the *Indians* that border on *New-York*, of the Hostilities and Cruelties committed upon them, by the remoter *Indians* called *Dowaganhaes*, at the Instigation, as they say, of the *French* belonging to *Canada*; that it is a Saying among them, the *French* have declared they will not take the Hatchet out of the *Dowaganhaes* Hands 'till the *Indians*, bordering upon the *English* Colony, have submitted themselves to the Governor of *Canada*; particularly the

Senckees

Senekees had lost forty of their People this Spring. Their Desire is, that those *Indians*, whom the *French* call their Children, and whom they support, assist and stir up to kill their People, may be stopp'd from committing more Acts of Hostilities; that they may enjoy the Articles of Peace, which being pursuant to an Agreement made here between the Count *de Tallard* and His Majesty's Commissioners; His Majesty hopes it will be duly observed on their side, as it has been on ours. And therefore His Majesty would have you acquaint M. *de Torcy* with this Complaint, that fresh Orders may be procured to the Governor of *Canada*, that he put a stop to these violent undue Practices, as being directly contrary to the late Agreement with that Court.

Our Admiralty-Sessions for the Trial of the *French* Pyrates is now concluded. They have been tried by Juries mix'd of *French* and *English*, tho' our great Lawyers said they could not pretend to it in Accusations of this nature; but every thing has been carried with great Candour and Impartiality, so that whatever could make for the Acquittal of any of them, was laid hold of in their favour, by which means of Ninety Men that were taken fighting in one Ship, after many Pyracies committed by them, Thirty-eight were acquitted, and Fifty-two condemned. Sir *Charles Hedges* observing that the Jury proceeded in so considerate and fair a manner, thought it more advisable to bring those Men on their Trials, whom your Excellency and Count *Tallard* had writ about. You will remember that you wrote in behalf of three, and Mons. *Tallard* has since sent me a List of six more, that went upon trading Voyages, and were forced by these Pyrates into their Ship. The last six were all acquitted, there being nothing enormous laid to their Charge; but of the first three, two of them were found guilty, and only the Surgeon is acquitted. For tho' it was admitted that they were taken out of other Ships, yet their Behaviour had been so remarkably cruel towards those they had afterwards mastered and plundered, and there was such full proof of it, that their being convicted was unavoidable. Sir *Charles* tells me, that if their own Relations had been their Judges, or of the Jury, they would not in conscience but have condemned them. He has promised to send me an Abstract of the Evidence that was against them, which I hope to be able to transmit to your Excellency by next Post, that Mons. *Tallard*, or whoever may be concerned for these Men, may be satisfied of the Justice of our Proceedings.

His Majesty went on Friday to *Windsor*, and returned last Night to *Hampton-Court*. His Majesty has acquainted my Lord *Tankerville*, that he designs to make him Keeper of the Privy-Seal, which will be declared to him next Council-Day. It is expected that my Lord *Godolphin* will succeed him in the Treasury.

People are still in expectation whether we shall have a new Parliament or not, which cannot be long unresolved. The Duke of *Shrewsbury* came to Town on Saturday Night. He is gone this day to *Hampton-Court*, and will lie there to-night. He talks of going for *France* towards the end of the Week. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, November 9. 1700.

WE have now the News that the King of *Spain* died the first instant, between two and three of the Clock in the Afternoon, which the inclosed will inform His Majesty of. The Cardinal *Portocarrero* was declared, by a Commission under the Privy-Seal, chief Governor during his Illness, and by the Testament, which they have since opened, he is continued; he sent Mons. *de Blecourt* a Copy. The substance of it is, That whereas the King of *Spain* was satisfied that the Intention and Design of the Renunciation, which the late Queen of *France*, &c. made, was only in order to prevent the Union

Union of the two Monarchies in one Person: And whereas the Dauphin has several Sons, to whom in conscience the Succession does belong; he does therefore appoint and declare the Duke of *Anjou* his Heir. In case he should die without Children, or inherit the Crown of *France*, then to the Duke of *Berry*. And if the same should happen to him, then to the Arch-Duke and his Heirs: and he limits it at last to the Duke of *Savoy* and his Heirs. He does also recommend to the Emperor and the King of *France* a Marriage between the Duke of *Anjou* and one of the Arch-Dutcheßes, in order to keep up the same good Understanding that is at present.

The Queen finding that she had no part in the Government, is fallen very ill. I waited on *Monf. de Torcy*, who gave me an account of these matters, and I did endeavour to learn what Measures they intended to take. The King ordered a Council immediately, and I believe you will soon see *Monf. de Tallard*. I can see they are very well pleased here with all these Circumstances, and what effect they will have, Time must shew; tho' I am of opinion that they will keep firm to the Treaty, as that is most for their Advantage.

The Letters from *England* of Thursday are not yet come. *Monf. de Torcy* was in hopes I might have received some Orders in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*. The King did not declare his Resolutions upon that Subject before he left *Holland*, but said that he would send me Orders from *England*. This is what *Monf. de Tallard* says. *Monf. de la Tour* is come to *Fontainebleau*. I have not yet seen him.

Monf. Zinzendorf assures me, that he has no private Directions concerning the Emperor's accepting the Treaty, in case of News of the Death of the King of *Spain*, as it was thought. I have had some Discourse with him, and he is satisfied now that there is no other Party for the Emperor to take, and he does intend to write as much. He is very apprehensive lest *France* should now press the naming of another, as by the Treaty they may, the time being elapsed.

I do not doubt but my Servant, whom I dispatched yesterday, has prepared you for this News, which I desire you will let my Lord Chamberlain know. I hope you will send both my Men back as soon as it is convenient, with what Orders His Majesty shall think proper to give on this Occasion. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A Letter from the JUNTA to the French King.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

THIS day, about three Hours in the Evening, God has taken out of this World King *Charles* the Second, our Lord and Master, to make him enjoy (as we must believe) his eternal Glory. His Will has been opened immediately after his Death, with the usual Solemnities of the Law: and there being found in the Clause, which regards the Heir and Successor of all his Kingdoms, Estates, and Lordships, that he names, without any exception, the most serene Duke of *Anjou*, Son of the most serene Dauphin, with Orders to give him the actual Possession without any delay, after he shall have taken the Oath, which he is to take, to observe the Laws, Privileges, and Customs of each Kingdom and Lordship, as it is more amply expressed in the two Copies hereunto annexed; and that his Majesty, whom God absolve, establishes a *Junta* for the general Government of the Monarchy till his Successor can govern it himself: the Queen, whom he has named to be one, if it be her Will to assist at it; and the under-written Ministers, discharge themselves of the Obligation they are under to send the first News to your Majesty, which will be followed by all other Diligences and Informations that shall be necessary on this Emergency. This contains all which we are to advise of, to
your

your Majesty. God preserve you, as is necessary. *Madrid* the first of November 1700.

I the QUEEN.
The Cardinal PORTOCARRERO.
DON MANUEL ARIAS.
The BISHOP INQUISITOR-GENERAL.
DON RODRIGO MANUEL MANRIQUES DE LARA.
The Count of BENAVENTO.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, Nov. 11. 1700.

I Should not have deferred returning my most hearty thanks to your Excellency sooner, for the honour of two of your Letters the same day, for any other Reasons but want of Health, having had my seasoning in the Country by a violent Cold and Pain in my Side, which have confined me to my Chamber ever since; but I am now better, and hope to go abroad to-morrow.

Our last News from *Spain*, by the ordinary way, very much damped the hopes an Express had given us a little before. Another arrived to M. le Comte de Briort this Evening about two, upon which he went immediately to the Pensionary: so it seems to be something extraordinary, and most likely to concern the King of *Spain*, whom we believe in a very hopeless State. It would not be amiss if we were at a Certainty before the Meeting of our Parliament, which may be one of the Reasons the King is not over-hasty to let them sit.

Monf. Lelienroot has re-assured me two days ago, when he did me the honour of a Visit, that notwithstanding the general Rumour of invading *Saxony*, and that some Motions have been made, that seem to countenance it, yet that his Master has no such Intention, but wholly laid aside all thoughts of it, the moment he knew it was disapproved by the King and the States. He presses here, as does the *Swedish* Minister in *England*, for the Guaranty and Ratification of the Treaty of *Travendale*, particularly the 13th Article, and an Act made to explain it, in the presence of our Ministers, by the Ministers of *Denmark*, that they meant it of the King of *Poland*, to whom the King of *Denmark* obliges himself not to give any Succours against *Sweden*; which they say he is now doing, by sending seven or eight Thousand Men into *Saxony*. The Duke of *Holstein* has also lately desired the same, in a Letter to the King. I find it is like to pass in *England*, and five of the seven Provinces have already consented here; as there is no question but *Groningen* and *Overyssel* will also do, as soon as their States meet. I do not take the inclosed News from *Mittaw* all for Gospel, but as I receive I send it. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 12. 1700.

I Am just come from *Fontainebleau*, where I received yours of *October 28*, concerning the Duke of *Savoy*: but I must now acquaint you that there is an end of our Treaty. This Morning I was with Monf. de Torcy, who began with saying that he did not doubt but I was sensible, that since they had an account of the King of *Spain's* Death, and the Disposition he had made by his Will, great Difficulties must have arisen; that the King had well considered the Occasion, and the Intent of the late Treaty with *England*, &c. which was to prevent a War in *Europe*. That the Emperor not having signed, and the Duke of *Savoy* actually refusing to accept of *Naples* and *Sicily*; that there having appeared Discontentments both in *England* and *Holland* against the *French* being Masters of those two Kingdoms, in relation to the Trade to the *Levant*; besides that none of the Princes, that the Treaty has been communicated to, have promised more than a bare Neutrality: the King could not but think

Q q q

there

there was a Necessity of accepting of what the Will of the King of *Spain* declared in favour of the Duke of *Anjou*. Then he read to me the Motives which he had drawn up, that I might the better inform His Majesty. I desired he would let me take the Copy, which I send your Lordship, and most that passed is contained in it. You may easily imagine I had little to say when he told me of the Resolution the King had taken. It is certain, that the Proceedings of the Emperor have put them in some measure on this Necessity; for M. de *Torcy* observed to me, that if the King had refused, the Arch-Duke had then a double Title, viz. that of *Philip* the 4th, and that of the late King's Will; and he could not tell but the *Spanish* Ambassador had Orders to send word to *Vienna*, that the moment the Emperor consented to the Treaty, the Duke of *Savoy* had a good Title, and his Humour is so well known, that we are sure he would not slip such an Opportunity, and then there must have been a War, not likely to be soon ended, whatever the Success would be: That whole Kingdoms must be conquered, the *Spaniards* being entirely against dividing their Monarchy. That the Ships we and *Holland* were to furnish, would not be sufficient for such a War; that it was very doubtful whether *England* and *Holland* would engage themselves in a greater Expence, which must necessarily be the Consequence. That it was certain, that the Treaty was more advantageous to *France*, and was what the King could have wished. He then ended, saying, that the King hoped that the Strength of these Reasons would so far prevail with the King our Master, that there might be still the same good Understanding as ever, which was so necessary for the Good and Quiet of *Europe*. I made no other Answer than that I would faithfully acquaint the King with what he had said to me, by Order, on this Subject. I only asked him, if I might not have a Copy of the Will. He said he would first ask the King, and then send it me. It will now be soon publick. I have already acquainted Mr. Secretary *Vernon* with the Substance of it: but, for fear my Servant, whom I dispatched on the 9th, should not be arrived, I now repeat that the Disposition of the Will is in favour of the Duke of *Anjou*, and his Heirs. In case he dies without Children, or should inherit the Crown of *France*, then the whole *Spanish* Monarchy is to go to the Duke of *Berry*; and if the same should happen to him, then the Arch-Duke and his Heirs are to inherit; and he limits it at last to the Duke of *Savoy* and his Heirs. He desires and recommends it in his Will, that the Duke of *Anjou* should marry one of the Arch-Dutcheffes.

The Account of the King of *Spain's* Death came on Tuesday the 9th, about One a-Clock in the Afternoon, and at Three there was a Council in Madame de *Maintenon's* Lodgings, at which she was present, with the Chancellor, the Duke de *Beauvillier*, and Mons. de *Torcy*. The Dauphin was out a hunting. The next Morning there was another Council in the same manner, when the Dauphin was present. Mons. *Blecourt* had sent a Copy of the Will, which the Regents had given him. On the 10th, the *Spanish* Ambassador received a Courier, with Orders to notify the King's Death. He had a Letter also for this King signed by the Regents, and the Queen's Name was the first. He went straight to Mons. de *Torcy*, and that Night there was another Council, where the Matter was determined, as I suppose. On the 11th, the *Spanish* Ambassador had a private Audience, when the Will was read all over to the King, who declared he accepted it. Soon after this, the *Spanish* Ambassador sent a Courier for *Spain*, and there is no doubt, but as soon as he arrives, the Duke of *Anjou* will be proclaimed. I did perceive that this would be their Resolution, but Mons. de *Torcy* did not explain himself to me 'till this Morning. The King will not declare it 'till on Monday next, when he will be at *Versailles*, and I believe the Duke of *Anjou* will soon after that go for *Spain*. Mons. de *Tallard* desired me to let you know that he should have sent the Account of the King of *Spain's* Death, as he promised, but that I did. He tells me, he has Orders to be ready, and says he shall soon be in *England*. I think he ought to go. As to what is to be judged at this Court by their Looks, I did

perceive that the moment this Resolution was taken, the King was very civil, but looked always much concerned whenever I came near him.

It is without dispute, by the Queen's signing, that she has been all along in the *French* Interest, whatever she seemed to the Emperor's Minister. And if the present posture of Affairs is considered, as she was hated by all, this was the only way to save herself; and it was so managed, that in *June* last the King of *Spain* sign'd a Will in favour of the Arch-Duke, which was sent to *Vienna*. That made the Emperor proceed as he did. Besides, they have never obliged her in any thing she desired. The King of *Spain* cancelled that, and made this on the 2d of *October*. *Monf. Zinzendorf* told me this in Discourse, and he would not believe what he sees now to be possible, tho' he does not yet know that the *French* King has accepted of the Will.

I cannot tell what Resolution the King will take, and I am far from giving any opinion, tho' if your Lordship will permit me, I cannot see but we must acquiesce. You are sensible of the posture of our Affairs, and of the Discontent there was in *England* against the Treaty, insomuch that my Lord *Portland*, and all that were concerned in it, were the next Sessions to be sacrificed, if possible. I am satisfied that this was the Design, whether the Parliament will approve of it, is what I cannot say. I must desire of your Lordship that you will send my Instructions in *French*, especially if I am to have an Audience of the King, that so I may make use of the same Expressions, which I will punctually observe. This is so nice a matter, and of so great a Consequence, that you will forgive me when I desire it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. *Monf. de Harcourt* is expected at *Fontainebleau*.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 13. 1700.

I Find by yours of the 24th, that you seem to think that Mr. *Sc——ll*, whom I mentioned, was not here. There is no doubt of it. He was to wait on me, and I have known him long. I was mistaken at first in the Name of *D——b*, as I have already informed you. He was call'd so, but his Name is *D——n*, and he is no Parliament-Man.

The Court goes into Mourning the 29th, with their Coaches and Liveries, and the Ambassadors are obliged to do the same. This will be a great Expence, but it cannot be avoided. I hope the King will order me some of my Arrears, for I assure you I am in great want of it. *Monf. de Harcourt* has Orders to return, as was to be expected, after what has past, and which you will have heard by Mr. *Chetwynd*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Nov. 2. 1700. O. S.

YOUR second Express arrived here yesterday with your Excellency's Letters of the 9th instant, N. S. I sent it immediately, with the inclosed Letters for His Majesty, to *Hampton-Court*, and went thither myself this Morning to the King's Levee. His Majesty commanded me to acquaint you, that He is very well satisfied with your Care, in giving him the earliest notice of matters of such Importance, as came by your two last Couriers. The King is a little surpris'd that an Account of the King of *Spain's* Will is sent into *France*, since *Monf. Schonenberg* makes no mention of its being opened, much less of what is contained in it. But he speaks only of the Power given to the Cardinal *Portocarrero* to take upon him the Administration of the Government, during the King's Illness, or in case of his Death, until his Will be opened. His Majesty would be informed, Matters standing thus, what the *French* Court intends to do as to Mourning, whether they will expect any other

other Notification of the King of *Spain's* Death; and if so, from whom, before they go into Mourning.

As to what *Monf. de Torcy* has said to you, in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*, His Majesty told *Monf. Tallard* that he could not come to any Resolution in that Point, 'till he was in *England*, where he now expects *M. Tallard* will arrive very soon. In the mean time, His Majesty thinks it deserves Consideration, whether any Variation should be made in the Treaty from what was proposed to the Emperor, since the Case now existing, the Emperor is allowed two Months from the time of the Notification of the King of *Spain's* Death, to determine and declare whether he will come into the Treaty or not, as you will see by the Secret Article, a Copy whereof I am commanded to send you inclosed, that you may observe to the Ministers there, how improper it would be to alter the Terms, to which the Emperor's Assent is expected, without giving him a previous notice of it.

His Majesty was glad to find by your Letter, that it is *Count Zinzendorf's* Opinion, that the Emperor's accepting the Treaty, is the best Party he can now take; and His Majesty hopes that he has writ accordingly to *Vienna*, so that the last Period of Time, still reserved, may not be lost.

I have communicated your Advices to my Lord Chamberlain, and it is now expected to hear what Resolutions have been taken in the Court of *France*, and what Orders are given thereupon. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

I acknowledged the Receipt of your Letters of the 6th and 8th by Thursday's Post, and then acquainted you that the Duke of *Shrewsbury* was coming towards you, and would make you a Visit at *Paris*.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Nov. 4. 1700. O. S.

I Received yesterday your Excellency's Letter of the 9th, containing the Names of the Regents in *Spain*. *Mr. Chetwynd* arrived here this Afternoon between three and four, with your Letters of the 12th instant, N. S. who immediately carried that for Lord *Jersey* to *Kensington*. I followed thither soon after, and was called into the Closet, while his Lordship read that whole Dispatch to His Majesty. His Majesty did not expect that the Treaty should be laid aside in the manner he finds it, and at the first instant, when it should take place; therefore has His Majesty directed me to tell you in the Letter *Mr. Jolly* will bring you, in relation to the Duke of *Savoy's* Proposal, that His Majesty did not think any variation could be made from the Treaty, 'till the Emperor's Mind was known, whether he would accept it or not, for which two Months was allowed, from the Notification of the King of *Spain's* Death; that it is still His Majesty's Opinion in this Case likewise, that the Emperor's Resolution ought to be expected, for preventing those Troubles, which the Treaty was made to avoid, and this His Majesty would have you acquaint *M. de Torcy* with, but he does not think it necessary you should demand any Audience of the King on this Occasion. I am, &c.

J. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 17. 1700.

I Have yours of the 2d instant by my Servant. It is certain *Monf. Schoenberg* has not for some time been well informed, as I perceived by his Letters, tho' I took it for granted, that he wrote always more fully to His Majesty. I do not doubt but my last Express has satisfied you of the Disposition made by the Will, and yesterday the Duke of *Anjou* was declared King.

This

This Ceremony past at *Versailles* in the King's Closet, all Persons being let in. The *Spanish* Ambassador did homage to him as King of *Spain*. He has now the right hand of this King, and is treated in the same manner in every thing. He is to set out for *Spain* on the first of next Month, and the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Berry* accompany him to the Frontiers.

I did not go yesterday to *Versailles*, *Monf. de Torcy* having given me notice that he could see none of the Foreign Ministers, because there was to be a Council. Besides, I thought it not very proper to be there when this Ceremony was to be, tho' some others were, and amongst them Count *Zinzendorf*, who, as you may easily imagine, was not a little surpris'd, when he saw the *Spanish* Ambassador. The good Understanding, that was between them, will now be no longer. The Count had an Audience of the King, soon after this Ceremony. That was appointed before he knew of this. It was to acquaint the King, that the Queen of the *Romans* was brought to bed of a Prince. He made all the haste he could to *Paris*, to let me know that the Duke of *Anjou* was declared. I fear the Emperor may thank himself, for it is probable that he might have prevented it. He tells me that he has News by a Courier, that the Emperor's Troops are marching for *Italy*: but I do not always rely upon his News. We shall soon hear if it be so.

Count *Monasterol* is come from the Elector of *Bavaria*. He has no Character, but has Orders to inform himself of what is doing. He tells me the Elector sent one to *England* the day he came away. It is thought that *Monf. de Harcourt* is gone to *Madrid*.

I do assure you there is great Joy at *St. Germain*s. The late King goes this day to wait on the Duke of *Anjou*. I was last Night at Monsieur's, who is at *Paris*, where I found Lord *Melford*, who gave himself other Airs than he used to do. I do not find *Monf. Tallard* is gone as yet, and I am of opinion it will be deferred as long as it is possible. Whenever he does go, he must put on a good Assurance, as Matters stand. I shall not see *Monf. de Torcy* till next Tuesday, by which time I may have further Orders: for those I have now received, are, as I conceive, no longer proper. As to what you write about the Mourning, I suppose His Majesty will have notice from the Regents in *Spain*, or from hence; but I shall inform myself. This Court takes it the 29th, and the Ambassadors Coaches and Liveries must then be in Mourning. The *French* Ambassador at *Rome* has met with an Affront. The Guards and Mob went, for what reason I cannot tell, to the House of one *Viani*, a *Roman*, but under the Protection of *France*. The Ambassador, upon hearing of this, went himself with some Servants, and declared they should shew the same Respect there as at his own House. Notwithstanding this, they fired upon him, and they have killed two of his Servants, and wounded several. He has complained to the Conclave, and has left *Rome*.

I am just now told, that an Offer is made to the Elector of *Bavaria* to continue in the Government of the *Netherlands* during his Life, and that this new King of *Spain* will confirm it to him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Nov. 18. 1700.

THE Queen Dowager has not hitherto been present at the *Junta* of the provisional Government, tho' the Ministers that compose it have often prayed her Majesty to come and take her place there. It looks as if this Princess keeps away, that she may not appear to consent to the Resolutions that are taken there against the Interest of the House of *Austria*. They begin to create Difficulties about the fulfilling of the 35th Article of the Will, by which all Jewels, not tied to the Crown, are left as a Legacy to her said

R r r

Majesty.

Majesty. The Pretext, which they pretend to make use of, is a Maxim in Law, which establishes no clear Inheritance, 'till after the Debts of the Testator are cleared.

The Provinces of *Guipuscoa* and *Alara* have sent two Deputies to Court to know in what manner they are to behave themselves in regard to the *French* Troops, who begin to encrease, and to file off along the said Frontiers. They have been answered, that they have nothing to fear, and that the Answer, which is expected from the most Christian King, will soon put them out of their pains. An extraordinary Courier from *Portugal* passed here yesterday, in his way to *Versailles*, bringing the Ratification of the Treaty, touching the dividing of the Monarchy.

The Body of the late King was, on Friday the 5th instant, carried to the *Pantheon*, or *Royal Mausoleum* of the *Escorial*. The Funeral Pomp was not at all proportionable to the Greatness of that Prince. The Mourning itself was so indifferent, that the exhausting of the Finances seemed to be represented by it to the life.

The two Vessels, ordered to carry Provisions to the *Spanish Armada*, lately set out for *Darien*, have Orders to go to Sea from the Bay of *Cadiz*, and to make the best of their way. Else every thing continues to be quiet enough.

I pray your Excellency to send the inclosed by a sure and quick way to His Majesty our Master. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 20. 1700.

SINCE my last there is another Courier arrived to the *Spanish* Ambassador with the entire Will; for before they had only an Abstract. There is also a Codicil, which was added to the Will on the 21st of *October*, and relates only to the Queen's Dowry, which was but Three Hundred Thousand Ducats, and now it is Four. She has the choice of *Naples*, *Milan*, *Sicily*, or *Flanders*; where she is to govern with a Council, which the new King has power to appoint. There are some Letters which say, that Count *de Harrach*, the Emperor's Minister, has made a Protestation against the Will, both as to the Matter and Manner, where he alledges that the King's Hand was guided.

Count *Monasterol* has been some time at *Versailles*. I do not doubt but great Offers will be made to the Elector of *Bavaria*, and it is well if he does not accept them, and so consequently be in the Interest of *France*. There is no good Understanding between him and the Emperor. I only give you this caution: It may prove otherwise. *Monf. de Harcourt* is made a Duke, and all things are preparing for the Departure of the new King.

These inclosed for the King came by the ordinary Post, and I send you a Copy of Mr. *Schonenberg's* Letter to me. I have yours of the 4th by my Servant. I thought it not proper to go on purpose to *Versailles*: but I shall soon see *Monf. de Torcy*, and I shall let him know what you order me. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER:

P.S. I am told that the Duke of *Anjou* has wrote to the Elector of *Bavaria* to notify to him his Accession to the Crown of *Spain*. The Duke of *Shrewsbury* is here.

Just as I was sending away my Letters Count *Monasterol* came to me. He tells me that it was the *Spanish* Ambassador that wrote to the Elector in the Name of the King, and that he has learned nothing of what they intended to do.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, November 24. 1700.

I Was yesterday with Mons. *de Torcy*, and took notice of the Article, by which the Emperor has two Months allowed, after the King of *Spain's* Death, to accept of the Treaty, the Intent of which was to prevent a War, or any other Troubles that might happen; and that the King was of opinion, it would be well to know the Resolution of the Emperor before any Alteration was made. He said, that the last Answer from the Emperor, which was of the 6th instant, and which he read to me, was as far as ever from accepting the Treaty. I then observed to him, that this was during the Life of the King of *Spain*. He said, he was satisfied that the Emperor would never have agreed to it; and, as the case stood, if *France* had refused, the Archduke had by the Will a Title to the whole Succession. I do find they do here expect that I should say something in answer to what I have acquainted you and my Lord Chamberlain with, concerning the Motives that induced them to accept the Will; and I am of opinion, that Mons. *de Tallard* will not go to *England* till they know the King's Thoughts on that Matter. I must own to you, that I shall make but a strange Figure at Court till I have some Orders of that nature. Most of the publick Ministers have complimented the King on this occasion, as from themselves, and some the new King of *Spain*. In case I have no Directions before Tuesday next, I cannot tell whether I shall go to *Versailles*; and if I do not, it may give them suspicions, tho' there is no reason for it. I met Mons. *de Tallard*, who says little, but is certainly very much concerned at the sudden Change of Affairs.

Count *Monasterol* had yesterday an Audience of the King of *Spain*, and you know already what has passed at *Brussels*. Mons. *de Bedmar* is this day expected with a further Compliment from the Elector of *Bavaria*, and it is said that the Elector will see the King of *Spain* on the way, tho' he cannot come hither by reason of the Ceremonial.

The Envoy of the Duke of *Wolfenbuttel* had also Audience of the King. He comes from the Princes who oppose the Ninth Electorate. I hear the King told him, that he might assure them of his Assistance to the utmost of his Power, and that he should let them know, that the Duke of *Anjou* was by the Will of the late King of *Spain* declared King of *Spain*, which he did not doubt but would be very agreeable to them.

I have none from you by this last Post of *November 7*, O. S. which makes me believe that they have been curious here to see what was in them. I do not doubt but my Letters will now be always opened. The Duke of *Shrewsbury* was yesterday Morning at *Versailles* to wait on the King, and he is this Morning gone for *Montpelier*. I am glad to hear you are gone to the other Office, and hope it will not be long before I shall know how to act. The Emperor's Minister goes no more to Court till he receives Orders. Mons. *de Chamillard* is declared Minister of State. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hanover, November 26. 1700.

I Am to return my Acknowledgements to your Excellency for your Favour of the 15th instant. I was just going to give your Excellency an account of a short Journey I was to take for *England*, by His Majesty's Permission; but I have received a Counter-Order, and am now to stay in these Parts for His Majesty's Service, upon the great Change of Affairs.

The *Danes* march on towards *Saxony*, and, as I hear this day from *Holstein*, they are already passed the *Trave*. The *Swedes* move towards *Wismar*, where

where the Duke of *Holstein-Gottorp* is hourly expected from *Sweden*. The *Polish* Envoy is gone from hence, after having acquitted himself of his comical Commission, for demanding Succours against the imaginary *Swedish* Expedition towards *Dresden*.

The Electresses are still retarded in their Return by the unlucky Indisposition of the Dowager. The Duke of *Zell* has left the Forest of *Goër*, and came yesterday to his Residence. As any thing happens in my Station, your Excellency shall constantly be informed of it. The Conjunction is important; and I must likewise intreat your Excellency to let me know from time to time the Truth of what regards the King our Master's Service. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R

Paris, November 27. 1700.

I Mentioned in my last, that I had not received yours of the 7th. I have now received it, with another of the 11th, so that I must now believe it was not sent from *England*, for I could not perceive that it had been opened. My being at *Fontainebleau*, was the reason of my being so soon informed of the Intentions of this Court. They could not well do otherwise than tell me: For when we had the News of the King of *Spain's* Death, I pressed *Monf. de Torcy* to tell me what Measures they would keep in relation to the Treaty. He answered me from time to time in a doubtful manner, which gave me reasons to suspect what was a doing: So at last he had Orders to acquaint me with it. Besides, he said it was proper that the King should know it otherwise than by the publick News.

The *Dutch* Ambassador has such ill Health, that tho' he was there, he was seldom at Court; which might be the reason he was not informed of it.

The Ship that belonged to *Richard Beard*, is released; but now the Owners talk of Damages, which they must not expect here, as I have sent them word; since it will cost them more in recovering than they will get. I have these Cafes very often, and I do as I can in them. There are many from *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, and I have reason to think that they often endeavour to run their Goods, and that the Innocent suffer sometimes for the Guilty.

I am obliged to you for your Care of me in regard to my Arrears. I never came here with the thoughts of growing rich, and all that I desire is, that I may not make myself uneasy in my Circumstances at my Return; which will certainly be, in case the Treasury leaves me in Arrears.

I desire you will let my Lord Chamberlain know that I have his Letter of the 7th, which I shall acknowledge as soon as I have any thing worth his notice. All things are quiet here, and no Orders are given for Troops to march. I intend to go next Tuesday to *Versailles*. The Article from *Paris*, in the *French Gazette*, is worth observing now, especially that concerning *St. Germans*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Novemb. 18. 1700. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 24th instant, N. S. and have laid it before His Majesty, but the King has not given me any thing in command at present to write to you. Their Resolutions are taken; therefore His Majesty may be allowed to consider a little what may be the Consequence of so sudden a Change in that Court, as likewise to expect what are the Sentiments of other Princes and States, who are equally concerned in the preservation of the Peace of *Europe*, and the preventing the Balance of Power

Power being broken by the uniting too many Dominions under any one Prince, which was the just Foundation of the late Treaty.

But how does it yet appear that the Security of *Europe* is better provided for by a Prince of *France* being made King of *Spain*? or what Care is taken to satisfy the World therein?

I know not how it comes to pass that your Excellency has not received my Letter of the 7th instant, for I writ both to your Excellency and to the Duke of *Shrewsbury* by that Post, from *Hampton-Court*, where I then was. I have sent to the Post-Office here, to enquire whether there was any failure in bringing those Letters to the Post-Office. If there was any negligence here, you will receive them by the following Post.

All I had then in command to write to your Excellency was, that as to going into Mourning, you should follow the Usage of that Court.

I hope it is no trouble to you, if I inclose a Letter in your Packet for the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, which is only to enquire after his Health. As for News, we have none at present. I am with great Respect, &c.

JAMES VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Decemb. 1. 1700.

I Was very much in doubt about my going to *Versailles*, till I received your's of the 14th instant, which determined me. I had a very good Excuse, because all that go there now, have put their Coaches in mourning, and mine are not yet done. They do already say at Court, that, till I have Orders to compliment the Duke of *Anjou*, I do well not to appear there. I did find by the *Dutch* Ambassador, who went yesterday for an Answer to a Memoial he had given in by Order of the States, that Monsieur *de Torcy* did intimate to him as much, as from himself. I have inclosed the Memorial he gave in, which is of the same nature with what I said to Monsieur *de Torcy*, tho' his Orders were more full. What he delivered was sent him in writing as the Resolution of the States, and he has received an Answer, which I also send you, that His Majesty may judge of it. You will see by it what they expect from us. The only Reflexion I shall make, is, that they take their Reasons to be of such force, that they wonder that what they have done is not approved of.

The Duke of *Anjou* is to set out on Saturday next. I cannot tell but it may be deferred, and if so, I shall be under some difficulties. As soon as he comes to *Madrid*, he will send the King of *France* the Golden Fleece, which he will wear, as the Duke of *Anjou* does the Order the Holy Ghost. Monsieur *de Tallard* was with me. He talks of going, but he has as yet no Orders. I am still of opinion that you will not see him very soon, unless the King our Master does signify His consent to what has passed here. He took no notice to me of the *French* Pyrates. Such things are the least of their thoughts at present.

The Prince of *Vaudemont* has proclaimed the Duke of *Anjou*, and has writ to the *Spanish* Ambassador here, to assure the new King of his Fidelity, and he hopes he shall receive his Orders before he goes for *Spain*, which he will punctually observe. The *Savoy* Ambassador has received Orders to compliment him on his Accession to the Crown, which he did yesterday. The Emperor's Envoy has no Orders as yet, and they do here not seem to value what the Emperor can do. I am nevertheless told, for certain, that a Marriage will be proposed to the Emperor for one of the Arch-Dutcheffes, according to the desire of the late King of *Spain*, by his Will. If that is not accepted, then they will marry him to a Daughter of the Duke of *Savoy*, who is about thirteen Years old.

S f f

They

They begin to say here, that as for *Holland*, if they are dissatisfied, the King of *Spain* ought to bring them to Obedience, as formerly belonging to that Monarchy. And if we dispute, the Little Gentleman at *St. Germain's* is to be made use of. I wish that may not be the Consequence at last, tho' we should act otherwise. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The DUTCH Ambassador's Memorial, mentioned in the foregoing Letter.

Translated out of French.

THE underwritten Ambassador Extraordinary of the States-General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, has lately received Orders from his Masters to represent most humbly to his most Christian Majesty, That their High Mightinesses did not expect the Resolution which his Majesty has been pleased to notify to them by his Ambassador the Count of *Briord*, in regard to the Will of the late King of *Spain* in favour of the Duke of *Anjou*, whilst it is contrary to the Treaty made by his said most Christian Majesty with His *Britannic* Majesty and their High Mightinesses concerning the Succession of his Catholick Majesty, which they believe ought to be observed in every thing, and which none is to recede from, but in concert, and by the unanimous Consent of all the contracting Parties; besides, that the time in which, according to the secret Article, the Emperor may accede to the said Treaty, is not yet expired, and that in conformity to this, their High Mightinesses, after their having received the News of the death of the King of *Spain*, have again invited His Imperial Majesty to it in the most pressing manner. For these Reasons do their High Mightinesses hope that his said Majesty, considering this Affair a-new, will also have the Goodness to make new Reflections upon it, and they have sent Orders to their Ambassador to pray his Majesty to persist in the keeping to the abovesaid Treaty, and to observe in every thing all that belongs to it.

Given at Marly, November 25. 1700.

V. HEEMSKERK.

The Answer from the Court of France to the preceeding Memorial of M. HEEMSKERK, and to a Representation given to Mr. DE BRIORD at the Hague.

Translated out of French.

IF the States General of the United Provinces seem at present surprized, that the King has accepted the Will of the late King of *Spain*, they will soon thank his Majesty for preferring on this occasion the publick Tranquillity to the Advantages of the Crown. If they take but time to examine with their usual Prudence, the infinite Troubles which the Execution of the Treaty of Partition would produce; that same Prudence will make them desist from the Demand contained in the Memorial which they have given to the Ambassador of his Majesty. They will own that the obtaining it would be a Misfortune to all *Europe*; and certainly they will judge, that nothing is so contrary to the Treaty, as to abandon the Spirit, to attach themselves only to the Terms.

For at last it was necessary in this Conjunction to distinguish the one from the other. The Spirit and the Terms were united whilst the King of *Spain* lived. By the late Indispositions of that Prince, and his Death, the one is absolutely destroy'd if the other subsists; the first maintains a general Peace, the Terms occasion an universal War. This sole, true Observation decides the Choice to be made to conform to the principal Object of the Treaty,

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as it is expressed by the first Articles, *To maintain the general Tranquillity of Europe, preserve the publick Quiet, to avoid a new War by adjusting the Disputes and the Differences which might result about the Spanish Succession, or the umbrage on too many States being reunited under the same Prince.* It was on these Motives, that the King has taken necessary Measures with his Allies to prevent a War, which the Succession of *Spain* seemed to threaten. The View of his Majesty was not to acquire, by a Treaty, the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, the Province of *Guipuscoa*, and the Dutchy of *Lorain*. His Allies had no sort of Right to those Estates. He might perhaps have gained greater Advantages by his Arms, if he had had a Design to employ them at the time of the Death of the King of *Spain*; but his principal Design being to maintain the Peace, he has treated on that only Foundation. He has permitted my Lord the Dauphin to content himself with the Portion designed him in the room of all his Rights on the whole Succession to the Kingdoms of *Spain*. If it does then happen that the Measures taken with a view to maintain the publick Tranquillity, produce a contrary Effect, that they engage *Europe* in a new War; If it becomes necessary, to preserve the Peace, to use means different from those that were proposed; if this new way causes no prejudice to the Powers allied to his Majesty; if the sole Disadvantage recoils on him, and that he is willing to sacrifice his own Interests to the general Advantage of Christendom: It does not only depend on his Majesty to do it, but he has also reason to believe that his Allies will praise his Moderation, and his Love for Peace, rather than complain of a Change which the publick Good requires; and that they will thank him for a Resolution which he could not possibly defer, without exposing himself at the same time to long and bloody Wars, which His Majesty would, in concert with them, avoid. We saw already the first Appearances of it; the *Spaniards*, resolved to keep their Monarchy entire, prepared themselves on all sides for a Defence. The *Milanese*, the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, the Provinces and the Places comprehended in the Partition, all put themselves in a condition to keep themselves united to the Body of the Monarchy of *Spain*. The Nation demanded only, to oppose themselves to the Division, a King which they might legally own, and tho' the Inclination of all the Estates of the Kingdoms of *Spain* were universally inclined for a Prince of *France*, the Subjects of that Monarchy would have been faithful to whomsoever the Disposition of the late Catholick King might have appointed them, on refusing a Son of the Dauphin. They were no longer uncertain but about the Acceptance; for, in short, the late King, having done Justice to the true Heirs, their Refusal would have authorised *Spain* to subject itself to the Archduke. No body doubts but the Emperor would have accepted the Will. The Succession to *Spain* for his second Son had been the Aim of his long Negotiations at *Madrid*; his Treaties in the Empire tended to the same End. He refused to subscribe to the Partition with this only hope. It would be very difficult to be persuaded, that ready to reap the Fruits of so much Labour, he should content himself with those Offers which he had constantly rejected.

So that the Archduke becoming King of *Spain* with the Consent of all the Nation, the Kingdoms and Estates reserved for the Partition of the Dauphin must have been conquered in order to execute the Treaty. The Injury done to the lawful Heir could have been no longer alledged; their Rights had been acknowledged, the Prince declared Successor to all the Estates depending on the Monarchy must have been attacked. The new Subjects, accustomed to the Fidelity towards their Master, instructed of the Refusal of the true Heirs, would have been as zealous for him as they have always been for those whom they had for their preceding Kings.

The Lords the States-General, informed by the King of all the Steps for the execution of the Treaty, know that His Majesty soliciting openly the Princes of *Europe* to enter into the same Engagements, has never by secret ways

ways tempted the Fidelity of the Subjects of the late Catholick King. He had then no Intelligence, neither in the Kingdom of *Naples*, nor in *Sicily*, nor in any of the Estates comprised in the Partition of my Lord the Dauphin; open Force was the only means to attack them. But the War once begun, after having refused the Justice which the late Catholick King would do to the Princes of *France*, would have been difficult to end. A King possessed of all the Monarchy of *Spain* without any condition, must have been reduced to great Extremities, before he would yield up the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, the Province of *Guipuscoa*, the Dutchy of *Milan*, and the other Countries and Places, which were to make up the Portion of the Dauphin.

It is unnecessary to examine what would have been the Events of those Wars. It was unavoidable, and that certainly is enough to shew that the wise Precautions taken to maintain an inviolable Peace in *Europe*, were absolutely overturned by the same means which were alone thought proper to maintain them. It will be perhaps said, that the Emperor knowing the Inconveniencies of a War, its Incertainties and the Misfortunes it brings with it, would have accepted the Treaty; that renouncing the Will, he would have obliged the Archduke to desist from his Right, and to content himself with the Division stipulated for him. The Emperor was certainly Master to do it; but his preceding Refusals, carried to extremity, did they give leave to believe that he would take that Resolution? And even if he had taken it, was the publick Repose more secured? The Duke of *Savoy* is free from all Engagements; he is named by the Will in case of failure of the Princes of *France* and the Archduke; what offer could be made to him considerable enough to hinder him from making use of his new Rights, and to ballance the Advantages which he might hope for from them?

It will not be said, that the Allied Powers would have substituted him to the Archduke. That is not the case, whilst it is supposed that the Emperor would have accepted the Treaty, and that the Exchange to be proposed to him is not infinitely inferior to that which his Expectations had set before him; and that his private Interest did not oblige him to make use of the Will in favour of the Prince, who would have been willing to conform to it.

In short, the Disposition made by the late Catholick King, produced still new Difficulties for the Choice of a Prince to be substituted to the Archduke. Whilst it would probably be examined what Prince, in a condition to bring the *Spaniards* under subjection, would have been willing, in spite of the Nation, to mount the Throne of *Spain*, and support the rest of the Monarchy which was dismembred, against the Enterprises of the Archduke, authorized by the Will of the late King, and against those of the Duke of *Savoy*, interested to support these last Dispositions. It does not appear that one might easily have accommodated so many Differences, without causing the least trouble to the publick Tranquillity; one could not but, on the contrary, foresee an universal War: It was then necessary to employ, to preserve the Peace, Means different from those which were proposed by signing the Treaty. The most natural, the most suiting to the maintenance of the general Tranquillity, the only just one consisted in what the King has taken by accepting the Testament of the late Catholick King. If any Prince has a Right to oppose his last Dispositions, it is sufficient to read them, to judge that this Right belongs alone to the Dauphin. When he is willing to desist from it in favour of his Son, the Will executes itself without trouble, without effusion of Blood, and the People of *Spain* receive with the Peace, Him, whose Birth, the Disposition of the late King, and the universal Wishes of all the Estates of the Monarchy call to the Crown.

If any Power should undertake to attack so many united Rights, it would charge itself unnecessarily with the odious Name of Disturber of the publick Repose; it would begin an unjust War, without likelihood of Success. But, if this War should seem unjust when undertaken by the Powers that

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should think themselves interested to cross the Advantages of a Prince of *France*, would it suit the Equity of the King, and his Tenderneſs for the King of *Spain*, to turn his Arms againſt a Nation, whoſe only Fault ſhould be the bringing to its new King, Grandſon to his Maſteſty, the Crown of one of the moſt potent Monarchies of *Europe*, and to aſk as the only Favour that he would accept of it? The Eminence of Kings cannot diſpenſe them from making known the Equity of the Wars they undertake. What Reaſons could his Maſteſty, who is ſo juſt, give to have recourſe to Arms, to ſeparate a Monarchy yielded to the lawful Heir?

They were endeavouring to deprive him of his Right: The Emperor, believing himſelf ſecure of the Intentions of the late King of *Spain*, promiſed himſelf to inherit all the Succeſſion; Juſtice, Honour, the Inter-eſt of the Crown, and fatherly Tenderneſs obliged the King equally to ſupport, with all his Forces, the Rights of the Dauphin. The former Succeſſes inſtructed them what was to be feared from the Effort of his Arms. The King of *England* and the States-General did equally deſire to prevent a War: the King conſented to it, the Dauphin was willing to abandon the greateſt part of his Rights, on condition that the Eſtates, which he had reſerved to himſelf, ſhould be ſecured to him. This unanimous deſire to maintain Peace produced the Treaty; and it is thus, it was thought, that by wiſe Precautions taken during the Life of a Prince, whoſe frequent and dangerous Sickneſſes foretold an approaching Death, Juſtice was done in ſome meaſure to the true Heirs, and at the ſame time a Foundation was laid for a ſolid Peace in *Europe*. The Diſputes raiſed about the Validity of the Renunciation of the late Queen, ſerved as a Motive to this Compoſition: in effect, it would have been unneceſſary, if the Nullity of that Renunciation had been as well underſtood, during the Life of the late Catholick King, as it is now declared by the Will. In ſhort, it was neceſſary that the King ſhould pleaſe to explain himſelf poſitively, whether he would accept of the Will, juſt as it is, in favour of the King his Grandſon, or whether he would reſuſe it abſolutely. There is no middle way, no alteration to be propoſed. His Maſteſty accepting of the Will, the Rights of all the Succeſſion entirely paſs indiſputably to this new King of *Spain*. He is not permitted to ſeparate them, nor to accept a part of the Succeſſion, and to reſuſe the other.

The reſuſing of the Will conveyed all the Rights to the Arch-Duke; the lawful Heirs had not even had a lawful Reaſon to complain that any Injuſtice had been done them: therefore, in any Caſe, his Maſteſty, if willing to maintain the Conditions of the Treaty, was obliged to attack a living Prince, lawful Poſſeſſor of the Crown of *Spain*; and all the Meaſures, which he had taken with the Allies, did only regard the Partition of the Succeſſion to a Prince, whoſe Death ſeemed near at hand. Whiſt War was inevitable, as well as unjuſt, if the King had took the Reſolution to keep ſtrictly to the Terms of the Partition, the States-General have no reaſon to complain that his Maſteſty has prevented it, unleſs that Reſolution cauſes them ſome prejudice. Hitherto there is none diſcovered. Their whole View in treating, their only Inter-eſt was to ſecure the general Tranquillity. It is a juſtice due to them to declare, that they have not ſtipulated any particular Advantage to themſelves, no Province, no Place, no Sea-Port depending on the Monarchy of *Spain*, either in the old or in the new World, no ſecret Article to facilitate their Commerce. They have ſtrictly obſerved the Office of diſinter-eſted Mediators between the King and the Emperor; they would before-hand pacify the Troubles which the reciprocal Differences about the Succeſſion ſeemed to threaten to produce very ſoon. If the Emperor, ſhewing his Deſire to obſerve the Peace, had ſubſcribed a Treaty, the Engagements then enter'd into by the only Parties truly inter-eſted in the Succeſſion, would have been different; but there is no Treaty but that with the Mediators, and the Lords the States, informed of all the Steps of the King, in regard to the Treaty, know the uſeſſneſs of the Inſtances made at *Vienna*, in the Name of his Maſteſty. They know that

the Emperor, persuaded that the Arch-Duke would be called to the entire Succession of the Kingdoms of *Spain*, would not engage himself in the Separation of the Estates of the Monarchy farther than it might have been useful to him, in extending his Authority in *Italy*. Let them then complain of the Emperor, and his continual Refusals, if they see with grief that his Majesty has accepted the Will. Tho' the Memorial, sent to their Ambassador, may give room to believe it, he will nevertheless suspend his Judgment, 'till they have made more serious Reflections on this great Event. He knows the Wisdom of the Councils of the Republick. All things well examined, the States-General will perhaps find that so many considerable Estates, acquir'd by *France*, according to the Disposition of the Treaty, might give a just Jealousy of its Power; and if they were to chuse, it is likely that they would still prefer the present State of the Monarchy of *Spain*, governed by a Prince of *France*, without any Division of its Estates, to the Execution of the Treaty, according to the Terms. The Talk of the People, in *England* and in *Holland*, prevented already what the Government would decide on this occasion; and their Complaints on the uniting the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily* to the Crown of *France*, shewed openly their Uneasiness for their Commerce in the *Mediterranean*.

If the King of *Spain* is a Prince of *France*, his high Birth, his Education, and the Example of the King shew him what he owes to his Glory, to the Good of his People, and to the Interests of his Crown. These Considerations will be always uppermost in his Mind, they will incline him to raise the Splendor of his Monarchy; and besides, the Tenderness of the King for his Catholick Majesty will certainly be the strongest Barrier, the most solid Security which *Europe* could desire: and if the Attention of the King, to maintain the Peace, gave still room for the least Fears of the Designs of his Majesty, much greater Umbrage would be taken at too many Estates being united under one Prince, if the Treaty could be executed.

These Reflections will probably persuade the States-General, that Justice, the Advantage of Peace, and the Spirit itself of the Treaty, did not allow the King to take any other Resolution than that of accepting the Will of the late King of *Spain*; that it suits with the particular Interest of the Republick of *Holland*; that it is agreeable to those of all *Europe*. The misfortune would then be general, if it was possible that his Majesty should, after the Declaration he has made, have any regard to the Instances contained in their Memorial; and he is truly persuaded, that they never intended to obtain the Effect of it. They are too clear-sighted, to have formed Desires so contrary to their Understanding, and to the true Interest of their Republick. If they were capable to forget them, so far as actually to desire that his Majesty would execute the Conditions of the Treaty, they would have shewn the Means to accomplish the Partition without War, and with the general Consent of all *Europe*; they would at least have named the Princes, that were ready to join their Forces to guaranty all the Articles of it; they would have declared those which *Holland* would have given, as well by Land as by Sea. Nevertheless the Memorial contains nothing like it: the States propose only to grant to the Emperor the Term of two Months, mentioned in the Secret Article of the Treaty. Have they already forgot that there are seven Months past since that Prince deliberates; that his Answers to the different Instances made to him, contained only an absolute Refusal to subscribe to the Partition? Let them examine what would have been the fruit of this new Proposition. The Emperor refused the Partition, on the single Hope that the King of *Spain* would call the Arch-Duke to the Succession; that Hope was vain at that time, and the Effect has verified this: nevertheless, if it was capable to suspend the Resolutions of the Emperor, what would not the Certainty, which he would have of procuring the whole Succession of *Spain* to the Arch-Duke, do now? For in short, the delay of two Months, which is proposed on this Occasion by the States-General, would have been looked on by the *Spaniards* as a

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Refusal, which the King would have made of the Will of the late Catholick King. There was no likelihood of asking them to wait for an Answer for so long a time; and even that Answer, according to the Terms of the Treaty, could not but be looked on as a Refusal. Thus the Regency of *Spain* was obliged to conform itself to the Intentions of the late Catholick King, to consign the Crown to the Arch-Duke, and the Emperor would obtain, for the single Delay which the States propose, which he has sought after with so much pains: thus, under the specious Pretext of executing the Treaty, they assure for ever the Grandeur and the Power of the House of *Austria*. His Majesty is willing to believe that they have not that Design: they know too well that it is their Interest to deserve, by their good Conduct, the Honour of his Affection, and the Continuation of the Marks of his Friendship. He is therefore persuaded that the making more Reflections than they have done on the Marks he gives of his Attention to the publick Tranquillity, to the Sacrifice which he is willing to make, in this View, of the considerable Estates, which he looked on as to be united to his Crown, they will change their Complaints into Thanks; and, congratulating the King of *Spain* very soon on his Accession to the Crown, they will endeavour to deserve from the King the same Marks of Goodness and Protection, which they and their Ancestors have formerly received of his Majesty, and the Kings his Predecessors.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Dec. 2. 1700.

THIS Court having on the 21st past received the obliging and much desired Answer of the most Christian King, the most serene Duke of *Anjou* was on the 24th proclaimed King of *Spain*, by the Name of *Philip* the Fifth. When the said Answer was read in the Council of the *Junta* of the present Government, the Queen Dowager was there present for the first time.

The Constable of *Castile* is named for the solemn Embassy, to go and congratulate the new King, and they have assigned him Fifty Thousand Crowns for that Function. As soon as this Sum shall be furnished, his Excellency will immediately begin his Journey to acquit himself of his Commission. In the mean while the Count of *St. Estevan*, Steward of the Household to the Queen, and the Dutches of *Feria*, his Sister, have been so piqued because the Constable has been preferred before the Duke of *Escalona*, their near Relation, that they have quitted their Employments under the Queen; who has since caused it to be insinuated to all her Domesticks, that each of them had liberty to quit or to stay in her Service.

I am surpris'd that your Excellency don't write me, by your Answer of the 14th of *November*, an Account of the obliging Quickness, with which his most Christian Majesty has consented to the Adoption of the most serene Duke of *Anjou*: but what your Excellency tells me of the Omission of my preceding Letter, relating to the Death and the Will of the late King, makes me fear the loss of my principal Packet for His Majesty the King our Master, and by which I have given your Excellency an exact Account of the testamentary Disposition. This Court having obstinately refused to allow me Post-Horses for an Express, I have been obliged to trust to all Occasions that have offered. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 3. 1700.

THE Duke of *Anjou* sets out to-morrow for *Spain*. This King goes some part of the way with him. I do not doubt but you will be acquainted with the Answer they have made here to the Memorial, which the *Dutch* Am-

Ambassador presented. It is very long, else I would send it you, and there are a great many Reasons to justify their Proceedings. The Conclusion is *un peu fort*; that he expects that, instead of Complaints, they will return him Thanks, and acknowledge, as soon as possible, the new King of *Spain*, thereby to merit his Protection and Favour. We hear as yet of no Proposals to make the *Dutch* secure, and I believe there is no thought of it; since they seem to say that this will depend on *Spain*, and not on them. *Monf. de Bedmar* has been here, and was at *Marly*. I am told that the *French* King assured him, that if there was occasion for his Assistance in *Flanders*, he would send what Troops they desired. I cannot think that the Elector of *Bavaria* will keep the Government long, notwithstanding what he has done, neither will the *Dutch* Troops be permitted to stay there. Whatever Proposals will be made to the States, they will come from the *French* Ambassador at the *Hague*, and I hope you will let me know what Steps he makes. It will be necessary I should hear from you often; for till we have Orders to shew, that we approve of what is done, nothing will be transacted here. I have sent you a Copy of the King's Letter to the Regents in *Spain*, where you will see that the Monarchy of *Spain* is to be as great as ever. The Prince of *Vaudemont* has wrote to the *Spanish* Ambassador, to desire he will assure the new King of his Fidelity, and that he waits for his Orders, which he will readily obey. There is no doubt but before now he is proclaimed at *Milan*. We hear nothing as yet of what they intend to do at *Vienna*. The publick Discourse here is about a Prophecy in *Nostradamus*; they say it is the last in his Book, and I think very much to the purpose as Matters now stand. I fear that the Affairs of *Europe* are in a very ill Condition, and that in a few Years *France* will be Master of us all. There goes a Report about *Paris*, that I have asked an Audience of the King, which he denied me, because I did not acknowledge the Duke of *Anjou*. You will do well to let every body know that there is no such thing, and that I have had no Orders of that nature. What I had to say was much the same with what the *Dutch* Ambassador said, and I only acquainted *Monf. de Torcy* with it, and did not give it in writing. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The French King's Answer to the JUNTA of Spain.

Translated out of French.

Most High, most Potent, and most Excellent Princess, our most dear, and most beloved Sister and Cousin; most dear, and well-beloved Cousins, and others of the Council established for the universal Government of the Kingdoms and Estates depending on the Crown of Spain:

WE have received the Letter signed by your Majesty, and You, wrote the first of this Month. It was given Us by the Marquis *de Casteldos-Rios*, Ambassador of the most High, most Puissant, and most Excellent Prince, Our most dear, and most beloved good Brother and Cousin *Charles* the Second, King of *Spain*, of glorious Memory. The same Ambassador has delivered to Us the Clauses of the Will made by the late King, his Master, containing the Order and the Rank of the Heirs, which he calls to the Succession of all his Kingdoms and Estates, and the wise Disposition which he has made for the Government of those Kingdoms, till the Arrival and the Majority of his Successor. The sensible Grief which We feel for the Loss of a Prince, whose Qualities and near Relation in Blood made his Friendship very dear to Us, is infinitely augmented by the sensible Marks, which he gives Us, at his Death, of his Justice, and his Love for his faithful Subjects, and the Attention he shews to maintain, after the time of his Life, the general Repose of *Europe*, and the Happiness of his People. We will on Our part contribute equally to the one and to the other, and answer the perfect Confidence which he has shewn Us. Therefore, conforming entirely to his Intentions, signified by

by the Articles of the Will, which your Majesty, and You have sent Us, all Our Care will hereafter be to re-establish, by an inviolable Peace, and by the most perfect good Intelligence, the Monarchy of *Spain* to the highest point of Glory it has ever been at. We accept, for Our Grandson the Duke of *Anjou*, the Will of the late Catholick King. Our only Son the Dauphin accepts it also: he abandons, without concern, the just Rights of the late Queen, his Mother and Our most dear Wife, known to be uncontestable, as also those of the late Queen, Our most honoured Lady and Mother, by the Advice of the several Ministers of State and Justice, consulted by the late King of *Spain*. Far from reserving to himself any part of the Monarchy, he sacrifices his own Interests to the Desire to re-establish the ancient Lustre of a Crown, which the Will of the late Catholick King, and the Voice of his People, give up unanimously to Our Grandson. Therefore we will cause the Duke of *Anjou* to set out forthwith, to give to the Subjects, as soon as may be, the Consolation of receiving a King, who is persuaded that, as God calls him to the Throne, his first Duty is to let Justice and Religion reign with him; that he must make it his principal Application to make his People happy, and to raise and maintain the Glory of so potent a Monarchy; that he is obliged to know perfectly, and to recompense those, who, in a Nation equally brave and wise, are proper to serve him in his Councils, in his Armies, and in the different Employments of the Church and State. We will also instruct him in what he owes to Subjects inviolably attached to their King, and to his own Glory. We will exhort him to remember his Birth, to preserve the Love of his Country, but only so far, as to maintain for ever the Peace, and perfect good Intelligence, so necessary to the mutual Happiness of Our Subjects and His. That has always been the principal Object of our Wishes; and if the misfortunes of former Conjunctions did not give us leave to shew it, We are persuaded that this great Event will change the Condition of things; so that every day will hereafter produce new Opportunities to shew our particular Esteem, and Our Regard for all the *Spanish* Nation. In the mean while We pray God, the Author of all Consolation, that he may give your Majesty that which you stand in need of in your just Affliction; and We assure you, most High, most Excellent, most Potent Princess, Our dearest and most beloved Sister and Cousin, most dear and well-beloved Cousins, and others of the Council established for the Government of *Spain*, of the particular Esteem and Affection which We have for you. Written at *Fontainebleau* the 12th of *November* 1700.

Signed

Your Majesty's good Brother and Cousin,
LOUIS.

And lower COLBERT.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 4. 1700.

I Take it for granted that the Duke of *Anjou* is to set out this Morning. The *French* King accompanies him to *Sceaux*, about four Leagues from *Versailles*, and there they dine, and there they take their Leaves. I intend to go to Court on Tuesday next, and see what is a doing, and also to speak about the *English* Effects taken by *Du Bart*, the Deputies of *Dantzick* being come. I do take all the Care I can to behave myself as prudently as is possible at this Juncture, since all Persons Eyes are upon me; which I conceive is right, whatever the King's Resolution may be at last. But it is impossible to prevent idle Discourses here. I suppose you will hear that I had asked an Audience of the King, and was refused, by reason I had not complimented the new King of *Spain*. There was no Ground for this, you know very well that I had no Occasion of doing it, having received no Orders of that nature: yet I am of opinion that this might possibly have happened, if I had, and that there will be soon a Declaration, that those Ministers, whose Masters do not own the Duke of *Anjou*, will not be received here. Their way has

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always been to carry things high. Not that I think that they are in a Condition of doing it, were other Princes united.

Yesterday I received the inclosed from Monf. *Schonenberg* to the King. What he acquaints me with, is not worth taking notice of: but I am told, from other Hands, that there are a great many *Spaniards* dissatisfied, and who do not approve the Conduct of the Regents. The Queen does not come to the Council; perhaps this is only that the House of *Austria* may have a better Opinion of her. The Count *de Harrach* has entered a Protestation, as has also the Pope's Nuncio, in relation to *Naples*; and his Pretence is, that the King dying without Children, it reverts to the Pope, as his Fief: both these Protests I have sent you, with the *French King's* Letter in answer to those of the *Spanish* Regents. The Stile is worth observing. I am told that Orders are given for a Fleet to be set out. It is not yet known of what number of Ships it is to consist. Some of the Forces, that were towards *Bayonne*, have Orders to march this way. They write from *Rome*, that the Cardinal *Albano* is chosen Pope.

One Mr. *Gourdon* is lately come from *Scotland*, and is supposed to be sent by Duke *H——n* and Lord *Kenmure*. *Meers* assured one, who related it to me, that the Court of *St. Germain's* is thoroughly acquainted, by one in the Office at *Whitehall*, with all that passed betwixt Mr. Secretary and him. One *Maxwell* is ordered to return to *Scotland* in all haste. He is to address himself there to Lord *Nithsdale*. We want a Post from *England*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Translation of the Protest of the Count of HARRACH, Ambassador from the Emperor at Madrid.

COUNT *Lewis* of *Harrach*, Ambassador of the Emperor, having seen the Copy of the Clauses of the Will, which King *Charles* the Second of glorious Memory had made, about the Succession of all his Kingdoms and Lordships, and that he had named for his universal Heir to them, in the first place, the Duke of *Anjou*, second Son to the Dauphin; in the second place, the Duke of *Berry*, third Son of the same; in the third place the Arch-Duke *Charles*, the second Son of his Imperial Majesty; and in the fourth place, the Duke of *Savoy* and his Children; has thought fit, by virtue of the strict Obligation of his Character, and the Ministry he exercises at this Court, to protest, as he now does, in the Name of his Master, by this Writing signed by his Hand, declaring the Nullity and Invalidity of the said Clauses of Succession, expressed in the said Will, and against all that shall be done by virtue of it, as contrary, and of great prejudice to the just and indisputable Rights, which his Imperial Majesty has over all the Monarchy of *Spain*, to which Imperial Majesty he has given Advice of a Novelty so little expected, and he will wait for his Orders about what he is to do farther. *Madrid, Nov. 6. 1700.*

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 8. 1700.

I Can now assure you that Monf. *de Tallard* takes his Leave of the King tomorrow, and will be soon in *England*. I did perceive by Monf. *de Torcy*, that he has a Letter to the King, so that a little time will shew what we are to expect. I did not enter into Discourse on that Subject, nor on the late Proceedings of theirs, and it is to no purpose. The less, I say, the better, unless I do it by Order. What Assurance *Europe* will have of its Security I cannot tell, unless what they say here will be thought sufficient, *viz.* That the *French King* will end his Days in Peace, and that his Ambition is now satisfied. Here is arrived a Courier from *Madrid*. The Letters say, that they had proclaimed the Duke of *Anjou*, and that there were shewn great Expressions of Joy on all parts. They have also the same Account from *Naples*. We shall soon see what the Emperor thinks of all this Matter. It is certain this might have

have been prevented, if he had accepted the Treaty. And as it is, it may be very fatal to *England*, even without a Remedy. We are not united enough at home to expect any good, and I fear that those that disapproved of the late Treaty, will soon have reason to wish it had took place. My being in *France* has not given me a better Opinion of their Sincerity or good Inclination towards us; and I cannot see, let this matter turn which way it will, that there is any great Occasion for the King to be at the Expence of an Ambassador here; neither do I believe that *Monf. de Tallard* will stay long with you. I must desire you will acquaint me with all the Steps that are made by him, and of the manner in which they are received; it will be of service to His Majesty that I should know it. I do not doubt but I shall hear them here represent that matter, and perhaps otherwise than the Fact is. If you do not write, I shall not know what to answer to what they may object to me.

The Deputies of *Dantzick* have made their Submission to the King, who received them favourably enough. I have given in a new Memorial concerning our Effects taken by *Du Bart*, and I do hope to bring that matter to some good Conclusion. At least I will not fail to do all that lies in my power. Some time ago Orders were given to augment all the Companies of Foot in this Service with ten Men each, and I hear they are increasing their Horse and Dragoons. They talk much here of the Emperor's marching Troops into *Italy*: but I cannot see which way they will pass. The *Venetians* are resolved to oppose them, and the Prince of *Vaudemont* has given Assurances here to do the same. As for the Duke of *Savoy*, he must and will give the *French* Troops Leave to pass through his Country. The *Venetian* Ambassador asked me not long since, when I expected the King's Pass for their Ambassador. I told him, I thought I should soon have it, and I desire you would think of it.

I am told that King *James* said, upon a Report that I had asked an Audience, and was refused; that I should in a very short time have a much greater Mortification. I am of opinion, that he thinks that I shall be told not to come to Court. I do not doubt but *Monf. de Tallard* will be served as they serve me. There is a great stress laid on *Maxwell's* Success. He set out yesterday for *Scotland* by the way of *Brussels*. It would be well if he could be taken. He knows the whole Secret of the Affairs in *Scotland*, and carries Instructions. He is known by the Name of Captain *Robert Maxwell*, Brother to *Maxwell of Kers*. He wants two Teeth before.

I hope you will not make any difficulty of sending the Duke of *Shrewsbury's* Letters to me. I shall take care of them, and I have settled that matter with him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, Dec. 10. 1700.

A Courier was last Night dispatched by the States to *Paris*, with their Answer to the King's haughty Letter. I did not know it in time, or would have sent this by him. The Answer contains, after such Thanks as he expects, that his Majesty knows very well the Nature of their Constitution to be such, that they can take no new Resolutions, especially in matters of this great Importance, without communicating them first to their Provinces, which they are more indispensably obliged to observe in this Case, because the Treaty of Partage was in a most solemn manner communicated to, and approved, and ratified by them, and therefore they cannot lay the Treaty aside, but with the same essential Formalities, it was made; that they would immediately communicate his Majesty's Letter to their Provinces, and hoped he would please to allow them so much time, as 'till they could know their Minds about this weighty Affair, seeing it was impossible for them to take any Resolution of themselves. Something I hear was mentioned of the King, as their Stadholder,

holder, whom they must also consult. The same in Substance was sent last Night in writing, by the States Agent, both to the *French* and *Spanish* Ambassadors here. This Expedient will probably give them a little more time to consider what they do. They seem to be grown much cooler and more moderate than they were at the first News, when they talked of nothing but War; and I am now verily persuaded the Party for acknowledging the new King will e'er long prevail by a great Majority. One said to me to-day, they would have been pleased, if their Ambassador at *Paris* had done it, tho' without Orders; for then they had been at liberty to have owned or disowned his Action, according as they found it suit with their Interest afterwards. The Emperor's Court makes a great noise, and talks of sending an Army into the *Milaneze* early in the Spring: but little is to be expected from a Prince so irresolute, and whose Finances are in so lamentable a Disorder; besides that, the *German* Name, by their barbarous Actions in the last War in *Italy*, is become much more odious than the *French*; and besides that their unreasonable Project of reviving his antiquated Pretensions to the Imperial Fiefs, has made all there fear, and consequently hate the Nation.

Your Excellency will have heard that the King of *Poland* refuses now to receive the *Danish* Troops, commanded by the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, into *Saxony*. However, they continue on their March that way; and Letters from *Berlin* say, they will be entertain'd in the Emperor's Service. We hear nothing with any certainty of the Affairs of *Livonia*, either of *Narva*, or the King of *Sweden*'s March to relieve it.

While things are in this uncertain Condition between this State and *France* and *Spain*, nothing can be moved on either side about the *Dutch* Troops in *Flanders*. It would be most natural to expect the Proposals from the *French* rather than *Spain*, because they are jealous of the *French*, and not of *Spain*; but in discourse with our *French* Ambassador on the Subject, he told me, if these People had any thing to move concerning it, they ought to address themselves to the King of *Spain*, for it no way concerned the King his Master. I return my humble Thanks for your Excellency's Letter of the 3d instant, and am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 11. 1700.

I Have but little to acquaint you with by this Post. *Monf. de Tallard* is set out this Morning, not very easy. It is certain that the late Proceedings here have much disappointed the Hopes he had, and I am of opinion that his Fortune had been made, if the Treaty had succeeded; whereas Matters do now not look that way. I desire you will send Mr. *Chetwynd* away after he has been some little time with you, for I want him, and there will, I suppose, be no occasion for his staying much longer. There is a Report, I suppose without Grounds, that the King is going to *Holland* for a little time. I cannot tell from whence they have at *St. Germain*s an Apprehension, that the P. Prince of *Wales* will be carried away into *England*, with his own Consent; and upon this they have increased his Guards, whereas formerly he had six, he has now fourteen. They think their Game so very sure, that there is no Occasion he should make such a Step. Besides, the changing of his Religion will never be suffered, and they have lately declared that they would rather see him dead.

I have sent to Mr. *Tard* my Bill of Extraordinaries for this last Quarter. As to *Brocard*, I have let him have fifty Louis d'Or, which is not included in my Bill. He was paid to the first of *August* by my Lord *Jersey*. He thinks it is but little: but unless he is more industrious, I shall not exceed the like Sum. When you think it convenient, you will order it to be paid to Mr. *Powis*, in the Treasury, on my Account.

Just

Just as I had wrote this Letter, Count *Zinzendorf* came to me, and told me he had received Orders to go to Court, now the Duke of *Anjou* is gone, as he used to do. He is to represent to *Monf. de Torcy* the Right the Emperor conceives he has to the Crown of *Spain*. He also tells me, that the Count *de Goes* at the *Hague* has full Instructions, and that there is an Envoy named for *England*, who will be soon there. In short, I do perceive the Emperor is willing now to do any thing the King shall like. I do not doubt but His Majesty will be already informed of all this matter, so that I only acquaint you with it in general Terms. We shall soon see what effect Count *Zinzendorf's* going to Court will have, and whether the *French* Envoy at *Vienna* will not be recalled. Count *Zinzendorf* says also, that Orders are given for the Troops to march towards *Italy* and the *Rhine*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Dec. 15. 1700.

I Think it very long since I had the Honour to write to your Lordship, which proceeded from matters being at a stand, and that there was little worth your Notice. *Monf. de Tallard* is now with you, which will bring this great Affair to some Point. I cannot perceive that he has Orders to make any Proposal in relation of what may make *England* and *Holland* secure, and I am unwilling to make any Steps that way, in order to find out what their Thoughts are here, till I am a little informed of the Opinion the King is of, and in what manner he could wish this would end. Some pretend that they will give all the Assurances that can be desired; but I take it that we should, if possible, have something more substantial. To others they say, that what relates to *Flanders* is not in their power, but what Proposals are to be made, must be made to *Spain*, which cannot be done till we acknowledge the new King. Here is a Discourse as if *Spain* would exchange *Flanders* for *Roussillon*, or some other Places near them. It is not improbable but this may be done in time, tho' at present they know their Interest too well as to give such Jealousies as this would do. The Emperor's late Proceedings, and the Account that he is sending Forces into *Italy*, have made the *French* take the Resolution of sending Count *de Tessé* to *Milan*. He is declared General of the *French* Forces, and goes away Post on Saturday next. Twenty-five Batallions and three Thousand Horse are marching with all diligence towards *Savoy*. It is said Count *Tessé* is to see in what condition Affairs are there, and to concert with Prince *Vaudemont*, whom, as I believe, they begin to mistrust, notwithstanding what has passed. There is no doubt but he is to ask the Duke of *Savoy* for Leave to pass through his Country: So that now he must explain himself, and they are not sorry it happens so. *Monf. Zinzendorf* was yesterday at *Versailles*. He had Orders to acquaint *Monf. de Torcy* that the Emperor had received a Letter from the States-General jointly with their Confederates the Kings of *England* and *France*, whereby they still invite him to sign the Treaty, and say that he had yet time to do it; that *Monf. de Villars* had, notwithstanding this, declared that his Master had accepted the Will, and that the Duke of *Anjou* was King of *Spain*, which was a sort of a Contradiction. The Answer which *Monf. de Torcy* made him was, That he did not know what the States may have done, but that the King had no part in it. That he knew what had passed here in relation to the Duke of *Anjou*, and that the King was resolved to support him with all his Forces, which he did not doubt but was easy to do. This was the Substance of what *Monf. de Torcy* told me. Count *Zinzendorf* did only set out the Right of the Emperor to *Spain* by the Will of *Philip* the fourth, the Renunciation of *France*, and several Treaties. There is no doubt, but that the Answer he had to all this was in very high Terms, which I think could not have been expected otherwise. I thought it convenient to let you know this, tho' I suppose His Majesty is better in-

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formed

formed of what the Emperor can or will do in this Conjunction than I can be. I am of opinion, that little is to be expected from thence. I find by some that *Monf. de Zinzendorf* does not think he shall be obliged to leave *France*.

The *Dutch* Ambassador is to have an Audience of the King to-morrow, to deliver a Letter, which the States have sent, in answer to that of the King. It is only a Compliment in general terms, which, I suppose, you have been informed of. *Monf. de Tallard* will have presented one to the King. Your Lordship can judge best what will be the Answer. I must desire you will be so kind as to let me know whatever Steps *Monf. de Tallard* may make, which will be of great use to me, and I shall take my Measures accordingly; and I assure you it is difficult enough at present to know how to carry one's self. You know this Court. I have no other end in view by this, than to make myself the better able to execute His Majesty's Orders, whenever I shall receive them. I cannot give any Judgment as yet of what will be the fate of the Elector of *Bavaria*, it will depend in some measure on the King our Master.

Monf. de Spanheim has mentioned to *Monf. de Torcy* (by Order) that his Master is declared King of *Prussia*. I do find that they are not here in the least inclined to own him; but you may believe they will endeavour to manage him at present.

I hope your Lordship will give me some light in our Affairs, when my Secretary returns, which I hope I need not assure you will go no further; this will oblige, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 15. 1700.

I Have the Favour of yours of *Nov. 28.* whereby I find that His Majesty had no Orders for me at present, neither do I expect any before *M. de Tallard* has had his Audience of the King, which may possibly bring things to some Point; tho', as I have already informed you, I do not know whether he has any thing to propose that may make us easy. *Monf. Zinzendorf* comes to Court again, but has little to say, and takes it, that whatever Pretensions the Emperor has to *Spain*, it does not relate to *France*: but this I believe will not pass, and he will soon see the contrary. Count *de Tessé* is declared General of the *French* Troops, and goes on Saturday next Post to *Milan*, to concert with the Prince of *Vaudemont*. Twenty-five Battalions, and three Thousand Horse have Orders to march towards *Savoy*, to be in readiness, if there be occasion. The Duke of *Savoy* will soon be obliged to declare himself about letting them pass through his Country. They pretend here that this Motion is occasioned by the Emperor's sending Troops into the State of *Milan*. The *Venetians* are also alarmed at it, and are preparing to oppose them. The *Venetian* Ambassador is to have a publick Audience to-morrow of the King and the Dauphin, to congratulate them on the Duke of *Anjou's* being King of *Spain*; and had he not been gone, he would have complimented him. The Duke of *Lorain's* Minister has done it already.

Monf. du Bart, who was here, is gone Post for *Dunkirk*, where, as it is said, four great Ships are fitting out, with several smaller ones, and such Orders are sent to other Places, of which I will endeavour to inform my self. There is no doubt but they will have a good Fleet in readiness by next Spring, unless Matters be so composed that there will be no occasion for them.

As to the Owners of the *William and Jane*; one *Arthur*, a Merchant here, had Orders to follow that matter; and upon Enquiry whether an Appeal did lie, they do assure me that what has passed in that Case does not admit of it. The whole Proceedings were before the King in Council, and were adjudg'd by him for the *Senegal* Company here; so that there is nothing more to be done, or to be expected from hence, they still insisting that none have

have a Right to trade on those Coasts but themselves; which I ordered my Secretary to tell the Person that was employed for them.

I do not know but Mons. *de Tallard* will give notice to you of one of our Men of War's firing upon one of the *French* off of *Plymouth*, for not striking. It is some time since Mons. *de Torcy* complained of it to me, and gave me a Memorial, which I should have sent, but Mr. *Chetwynd*, who went away in haste, had locked it up. It may be that you will hear more of it; but lest you should, I give you this Intimation. When this Affair happened, we were on a good footing here, and what was done by them was only to keep up their Pretensions, and Mons. *de Torcy* said only, that he hoped it would be prevented for the future. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Dec. 16. 1700.

THE Marquis of *Harcourt* is returned hither since Monday last. They careſs him extreemly, and it is certain that his Commission extends itself to Affairs of more Importance than the regulating only what relates to the Reception of the new King. It seems that those, who have the greatest Credit in the *Junta* of the Regency (that is to say, the Cardinal *Portocarrero* and his Adherents) have made a Vow to abandon the Fate of the Monarchy to the Arbitration and the Good-will of *France*. Who would have thought two Years ago, that the *Spaniards* should become so cordially tractable on this Article? Thus it is true, that politick Maxims are no less subject to Variation than other Affairs. In the mean while, this Court has sent Orders to the Government of the *Netherlands*, ordering all, without exception, absolutely to obey every thing that his most Christian Majesty shall judge proper to order the new King to do. Orders are also sent to transport into the *Milanese* the few Troops that remain in *Catalonia*: and it is resolved to raise fifteen Hundred Men in *Italy* to be transported to *Flanders*, whence they will no doubt endeavour to remove the Foreign Troops, to put *French* in their places.

It is almost inconceivable how much Animosity the Ill-intentioned at this Court shew against *England*, and the United Provinces: but we have reason to hope that the perfect Union of those two Protestant Powers (so absolutely necessary in the present Conjunction) will dissipate the ill Designs of their implacable Enemies.

What is most ridiculous in these indiscreet Ministers is, that the Monarchy is so generally decayed, that of themselves they can do nothing; so that if they came to be attacked by very moderate Forces, they would be every way exposed to irreparable Losses, and especially in *America*. It is true, that they would be safe under the Protection of *France*; but in order to make them secure every way, as powerful as that Crown is, it would be obliged to exhaust itself. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Copy of my Letter to Sir CHARLES HEDGES, Secretary of State, &c.

S I R,

Zell, Decemb. 17. 1700.

I Am this Day favoured with your Honour's Letter of the 26th of November O. S. for which I return my most humble Acknowledgments.

As to the Disposition of this whole House of *Brunswick-Lunenbourg*, in relation to the present Conjunction, I must in the first place inform your Honour that one Branch of it is to be looked upon as torn off from the Family, by unlucky Differences in domestick Matters; whereof *France* having taken advantage, has engaged the Duke of *Wolfembuttel* in its Interest, past all

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Recovery. But as to the other two Courts of *Zell* and *Hanover*, I am obliged to do them justice, in declaring to His Majesty, that by all I can perceive, either by Conversation with the Elector, and the Duke of *Zell*, or in conferring with their Ministers, their Highnesses are entirely at the King our Master's Devotion, with a full Confidence in His Royal Conduct, as to publick Affairs. They will observe with great Deference His Majesty's prudent Management of all things, and (as they are pleased to assure me) conform themselves to it. They are not in a Situation to precipitate Business, but when just Measures are once taken by the greater Powers, I mean the Emperor, *England*, and the States, these two Princes will fall in, and be of no small weight, provided the Northern Crowns and the Court of *Brandenburg* do not disquiet them. Notwithstanding this fair Appearance, I am not without my Apprehensions, by reason of a strong *French* Cabal in this Court, which assists the Envoy of *France* zealously in all his Designs. The Dutches, having been first seduced herself, may mislead others so far as it lies in her power, which daily increases. I wish I may be so happy as to reclaim that Princess, for her credit at present is not to be despised. The said *French* Envoy, the Marquis de *Bonac*, came hither last Night from *Wolfenbuttel*, and is just now gone to his Audience. His Commission is to notify the Duke of *Anjou's* Accession to the Crown of *Spain*; what he will negotiate hereafter, I shall endeavour to penetrate, so as to transmit the Knowledge of it to His Majesty. *Monf. de Obdam* is still in this Court. I am, &c.

My Lord,

Your Excellency sees what I write this day to *Whitehall*. Methinks we are in pretty odd Circumstances. God send us well out of them! I am ever with all Respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 18. 1700.

THE *Dutch* Ambassador had yesterday his Audience. The King's Answer was, that he waited with Impatience for the last Resolution of the States, which he hoped would be conformable to what he so much desired, the Peace and Quiet of *Europe*, and that he might assure his Masters of his Friendship, which he would be glad to continue to them. *Monf. de Torcy* told him afterwards, that the King was ready to give the States all the Assurances they could desire, in relation to their Security. I am told that the *French* Ambassador at the *Hague* has the like Orders. It is certain, that here they are not for War, if it can be avoided; and that is not to be doubted, since they cannot hope for any Advantage by it, more than they have. They seem to value but little what the Emperor can do, yet they are resolved to take right Measures in case of the worst. The Posture of Affairs at *Vienna* is such, that, if the Princes of *Italy* were not resolved to oppose the Imperialists, yet they would not be in a Condition to march these three Months; but it seems there is such Hatred against them there, by reason of their Proceedings in the late War, that I find by all the *Italian* Ministers that they like *French* Troops better than *Germans*; so that I cannot see but the great Preparations, that are now talked of, will come to nothing. The Emperor would be glad that others would undertake his Cause.

The Envoy of the Great Duke had on Thursday last a publick Audience to congratulate the King on the Duke of *Anjou's* Accession to the Crown of *Spain*.

I have yours of the 2d, and I shall take what care I can to inform you of what Orders are given in relation to the fitting out of a Fleet. There is no doubt but they are taking their Measures to have it in a readiness, and they say here that we are doing the same.

Meers

Meers is gone to *Dunkirk*, not well satisfied with *St. Germain's*. They do still suspect him, tho' he has endeavoured to clear himself. I am told that he could not obtain any Money, which was what he aimed at. Here is one Captain *Magrath*, who married Chancellor *Fitton's* Daughter. Since her Death he is a starving, and would go for *England*. He has pressed me that I would write in his Behalf, and does say, that if he has only a Promise not to be put in Prison, he will acquaint you with all that he knows. He is a Man that lived well, and is upon the point of Honour, so that no use can be made of him here. If he is permitted to come over, he will be able to give you light into all that formerly has passed, and what Divisions and Factions there are amongst them, and the true State of their Affairs at present. I am also of opinion, that when he is there, you might engage him further: If not, he may be sent back again. He was often with *Meers*, when he was here. He is a Papist, and he has Relations in *England* that will maintain him, and he is ready to take the Oaths to the Government. I cannot tell but he may venture to go without Leave, for he is very miserable here. All the Conditions he desires are, that he may live in *England* by Connivance, subject to the Laws. I am always unwilling to write concerning such Men: but when I consider how many do go privately, and that he may do the same, I think by these means you may know something from him, &c. One *Aldworth*, a Man of Learning, who has been for several Years at *St. Germain's*, and who went there by the Name of *Bernard*, is gone for *England*. He pretends that he has Leave from the Government, which you will know, if it is so. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, Dec. 15. 1700.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 15th of this Month. Hereby goes the Order which I shall send to-morrow to M. *Schuylenburg* about the Augmentation which His Majesty has granted to M. *de Lubieres*, and it is fixed to two Thousand Livres. He has the principal Obligation to the Recommendations of your Excellency.

They write me from *Holland*, that the Money of the second Term has been remitted thither. His Majesty has shewn great Satisfaction at the Care and Exactness of your Excellency in soliciting this Affair. Mr *Richard* writes me, that they have not restored him the Mayorship of *Lons le Saulnier*, nor the Papers that are at the Chamber of Accounts of *Dole*. He wishes your Excellency would make new Instances about these two things, but I believe you will think it proper to wait a little 'till you see what turn the Affairs of more Importance will take.

The *Perecation* is a Tax laid on the Popish Clergy in the Principality of *Orange*, which is applied to the Maintenance of the Ministers. Whilst *France* kept the Ministers in Prison, and enjoyed the Principality, they discharged the said Popish Clergy of this Tax. And when the Peace was made, *France* asked that this Clergy might not be called upon for what was passed, which was promised. I have not heard it said, that any Prosecutions are made at *Orange* against the Popish Clergy on this account. I write to M. *de Lubieres* that he may inform your Excellency of it; and I desire of him, if any Prosecutions are began, to cause them to be suspended, 'till we are here fully informed of the Fact. Your Excellency may speak about it in this manner to M. *de Torcy*. I am, &c.

J. ROBETHON.

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To

To Monsieur SCUYLENBOURG.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Hampton-Court, December 25. 1700.

THE King has explained himself about the Augmentation he will allow Monf. de Lubieres, his Commandant at *Orange*, and he has fixed it at 2000 Livres, *French* Money, a Year, payable every six Months, to begin on the first of *January* of the next Year 1701. This is not to be given him as an Increase of Wages, (for in that case it might serve as a Precedent to Commandants, that are to come after him, which is to be avoided;) but as an extraordinary Sum, which the King allows him for his Table, and other Expences which he is liable to. You will give the necessary Orders about this to the Treasurer of *Orange*. I am, &c.

ALBEMARLE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Stockholm, Decemb. 15. 1700.

ALL the Letters from *Reval*, *Wesenberg*, *Narva*, *Neyenschantz*, *Wyburg*, &c. unanimously confirm the News we had before, of a most glorious Victory the King of *Sweden* has gained against the *Moscovites*. The Particulars are not yet fully known; but all Letters agree in general, that the *Swedish* Army exceeded not 10000 Men, divers of which were sick, and more very much fatigued. That the Day before the Action, his Majesty had recommended and given time to all his Army to prepare themselves and receive the holy Sacrament, himself exhorting them to Repentance, and especially that for the Love of God and Him, they would forgive one another, and be in perfect Charity. After the Sacrament, his Majesty, at the Head of his Army, represented to them the barbarous Cruelty of the Enemy before them, and the Necessity of conquering or dying, the Justice of his own Cause, and therefore the firm Confidence he had that God would give a Blessing to his Endeavours. Yet if any of them were unwilling to venture with him, they should have free leave to retire, nor should they thereby incur his Displeasure. Upon this, the whole Army expressed their unanimous Resolution to live and die with him, and their Desire to be led against the Enemy. The first Attack was made on the 18th of *November* by Colonel *Rebinder*, at the head of 800 *Finlanders*, who drove an advanced Body of (it is said) 5000 *Moscovites* to a Defilé, and entring pell-mell with the Enemy, made themselves Masters of it. On the 19th a second Defilé was forced, and on the 20th the *Swedish* Army came up to the *Moscovites* Camp; which being fortified, the Artillery was employed to make a Breach; and that done, the Camp was stormed, in which Attempt the *Swedes* were twice or thrice repulsed; but at last, the King putting himself at the head of them, they forced their way, &c. and put the Enemy to flight. The Action lasted four Hours. How many fell on the *Swedish* Side, is not yet known. It is said the King had his Horse killed under him by a Cannon-Ball, that took off his Head; and that in the pursuit of a Body of 3000 *Moscovites* throwing down their Arms, and on their Knees begging for Quarter, his Majesty immediately granted it, and in the whole Action behaved himself with a most admirable Evenness of Temper. What Numbers of the Enemy were slain and drowned by the breaking of their Bridge, and their being forced to swim for their Lives, is very uncertain. Some doubt is made whether the *Czar* was there in person or no, some Advices saying he was retired a few Days before: on the other side, the Governour of *Neyenschantz*, who was marched into *Ingemerland* with a Body of 4 or 5000 Men, to make a Diversion on that side, writes from his Camp at *Duderhoff* the 23d of *November*, that he had Information the *Czar*, with the Remnant of his

his Forces, had posted himself at *Tama*, which is about four *German* Miles eastward of *Narva*, and that the *Moscovites* that were in *Coporie* had, upon the news of their Army's Defeat, quitted that Place, and left a good Magazine behind them. The said Governour of *Neyenschantz* adds, that he had, upon the news, immediately sent 300 Horse to seize the Pass at *Saritz*, and would follow them with the rest of his Forces the next Morning. If this Enterprize takes effect, it is believed here, scarce any of the *Moscovite* Troops at *Tama* will escape, all the Country being covered with unpassable Woods and Forests.

What Ammunition, Artillery, Provisions, &c. has been taken, we know not yet. It is said 200 Brass Cannon, besides others of Iron, with a great number of Mortars; 'tis said the Cannon of *Plesco* was brought thence for this Expedition, and that the Place is in a manner defenceless; and that therefore this King will, without delay, march to attack it, and that it is to that end that the Troops that were following from *Reval* are ordered to march to *Dorpt*.

I send the inclosed rude Delineation of those Parts, with the Names of the Places mentioned. I am, &c.

J. ROBINSON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, December 12. 1700.

I Now send you back Mr. *Chetwynd*, his Majesty having thought it proper that he should bring you the inclosed Letter for Monf. *Schonenberg*, which his Majesty would have you send to *Madrid* by the quickest and safest way you can think of. I send you the Letter unsealed, that you may see it contains the Copy of an Instruction which his Majesty gives to Dr. *Aiglionby*, who is appointed to carry his Majesty's Answer to the Letter that his Majesty received the last Week from the Regency of *Spain*, notifying the King's Death, and the Disposition he made of the Crown. He is ordered to go by the way of *Groyne*, and I believe will set forward to-morrow. His Majesty would be glad that he might reach *Madrid* before the King of *Spain's* Arrival there, it being of consequence that no time should be lost in executing these Instructions; but since he may be delayed by contrary Winds, his Majesty has thought fit that a Copy of the Instructions should be sent directly, and with speed, to Mr. *Schonenberg*, that he may in the mean time make his Majesty's Intimations of living in his former Friendship with *Spain* rightly understood, and use his Endeavours either to keep them in, or bring them to the same Disposition towards us: Your Excellency therefore seeing of how publick a Concern it is, that this Letter be speedily conveyed to *Madrid*, you will take the most effectual way for it, and send it by an Express of your own, if you can't find any other good Hand to trust it to.

His Majesty thinks Mr. *Schonenberg* will understand it, as it is in *English*; but not being assured of it, I believe it will be necessary that your Excellency should intrust Mr. *Chetwynd* to put it into *French*, and so to forward it with the Translation, enjoining him to be secret in it, so as neither to speak of it there, nor to take any notice of it in what he may write to *England*. He knows nothing at present of what he carries, and therefore your Excellency is more at liberty to communicate it to him, or not, as you think fit.

Now your Excellency sees what will be his Majesty's Conduct towards *Spain*, if he meets with suitable returns from thence; his Majesty would have it serve as an Instruction to you, how to govern yourself in the Conversations you may have an opportunity for with the *Spanish* Ambassador residing at *Paris*, or with such of the *Grandeess* as are coming thither from the Regency, to prevent their taking any ill Impressions, in relation to his Majesty and his Kingdoms: But you will defer acquainting him with what his Ma-

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jesty has now ordered, since it may be doubted what use he would make of such an Information in that Court. It seems fit likewise that nothing be said of the Particulars to the Emperor's Minister.

I gave your Excellency an account in a Letter I writ last Night, that Monsieur *Tallard* was arrived, and that he had been to make me a Visit, to know when he might present to his Majesty a Letter he had brought from his Master. I went this Morning to *Hampton-Court* to receive his Majesty's Pleasure, and found Monsr. *Tallard* alighting at the Court Gate, as I was going to take Coach to come to *London*. I acquainted him, that the King had appointed him to be with him to-morrow at Eleven in the Morning. He answered, that he would be at *Hampton-Court* at that Hour: But since he was now there, he hoped he might go up and make his Bows to the King. I told him, that needed no Advice of mine, he would do therein as he thought fit; so he went into his Coach to change his Perriwig, and I came away for *London*, and shall return his Visit after he has presented his Letter, since he has prevented my doing it before. Whether his hastening to *Hampton-Court* be according to Rule or not, I don't pretend to judge; your Excellency will know best, being so well versed in the practice of that Court. Monsr. *Tallard* took an occasion to tell me yesterday, that he never intended to stay in *England* beyond three Years. Those will be expired in *March* next, and therefore about *February* he hoped to have Orders to return home; but his Master would send another to supply his Place, and such a one as should be agreeable to his Majesty. He touched upon the Alterations that had happened since his being here last, as to their accepting the Will. He said the Reasons for it were contained in a Memorial sent into *Holland*, which he did not doubt but I had seen, and he could repeat them all by heart, if it were necessary. He did repeat most of what shewed the necessity of accepting the Will, thereby to prevent the Emperor's and the Duke of *Savoy's* having a new Title to the Crown of *Spain*. He said, if the Emperor thought of invading *Milan*, his Pretensions would be unjust, since they had the original Grant by which *Charles* the Fifth conferred that Dutchy upon *Philip* the Second, and his Heirs, as well Females as Males. I asked him, whether if the Emperor thought he had a Right to *Milan*, and would assert it, that that ought to give Jealousies of Disturbances in Parts far remote from it, and whether that would occasion the marching of *French* Troops into *Flanders*: That we were surprized to hear of Messages sent to the Elector of *Bavaria*, to tell him that the *French* Troops should march into *Flanders* whenever he thought it necessary. I asked if *Holland* had given any Occasion for it, or whether they imagined any Alarm could come from thence. All he answered to it was, that he had not heard of any such Messages or Orders. I told him, that the Advantages which accrued to *France* and *Spain* by the accepting the Will, were visible; but what had others to rely upon, who saw their Treaty laid aside, from whence they promised themselves a Prospect of Peace and Tranquillity? His Answer was, That *Spain* would remain as it has been, and they might have the same Contests with them hereafter, as they had formerly: But his Master lost by complying with the Will, but was satisfied that Justice had been done to his Family, and the preserving of Peace was all he aimed at. He made a slight mention of the Pyrates that were condemned, particularly the Captain he had writ about; but said he was more satisfied in that matter, since the Captain at his death owned his Guilt.

I send your Excellency the Pass for the *Venetian* Ambassador, which has been delayed longer than it needed.

I moved his Majesty this Morning about allowing your Bill of Extraordinaries, and have Directions for it.

I have taken care to pay 50 *Louis d'Ors* to Mr. *Powis* for *Brocard*. I am glad your Excellency calls upon him to deserve the continuance of it. I shall not grudge his being considered further, when he performs any thing that may entitle him to it.

Mr.

Mr. *Chetwynd* will inform you of all Occurrences here. I shall only therefore assure your Excellency that I am, with great respect, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Whitehall, Dec. 10. 1700. O.S.

I Am indebted to my good Lord *Manchester* for two or three Letters, and it would be unreasonable, if I did not take the opportunity of Mr. *Chetwynd's* Return, to tell your Lordship what I know of the State of things here: That we shall have a new Parliament, is (I think) certain, (at least, as far as I can see into the matter.) What sort of a Parliament it may prove, I cannot any ways foresee; but sure there never was so much work, as at present, in securing Parties, and bribing Elections: Whig and Tory are railing on both sides, so violent, that the Government may easily be over-turned by the Madness of either Faction. We take it to be our play to do nothing against common Sense or common Law, and to be for those that will support the Crown, rather than oblige their Party; and in order to this, Men are preferred who are looked upon to be honest and moderate. In this Number (whether with reason, or not, Time must decide) we comprehend our Lord-Keeper, and our new Secretary: Lord *Rochester* and Lord *Godolphin* are in the Cabinet-Council; the latter is at the head of the Treasury, the former (we take it for granted) is to go Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, tho' it be yet a Secret. The two Companies are to be brought to an Agreement, (if possible;) and Mr. *Montagu's* being made a Peer, (we take for granted) may contribute to this Union, since being in the House of Commons he would make an ill Figure, if he either declined to support the New, or should find too great an Opposition in his endeavouring so to do. As to the Great Affair, I presume the King will wholly defer it to the Parliament, and act conjointly with their Consent, which I take to be the only Method. All that I can say more on this head, is, that I take it to be happy for the King, that the Will is preferred by the *French*, at a time when every body was peevish against the Court (tho' with what reason God knows) about the Treaty. Count *Tallard* makes a foolish Figure here; I do not know as yet what he says to the King on this Occasion: but every body observes his Excellency to be very melancholly and desponding, and one may judge he has reason to be so, as to his own particular, concerning the Part he has been made to act, however his Country may in general approve their Monarch's Breach of Truth and Treaty. This, I think, is the present Figure of our Affairs, which I am glad to write to so good a Friend as my Lord *Manchester*, tho' to most of the World here, I am of opinion, that to say least, is to do best. Your Friend my Lord *Jersey* grows very much a Minister, and is in a fair way of being very great. As to my own Affairs, I have a great many Friends that would set me up at *Cambridge*: I know I shall find great Opposition from Mr. *Hammond's* Party there, and great Trouble, in case I should throw him out, from those Men, who will never be satisfied, let me act as I will or can. If your Lordship thinks it convenient, I know you will not refuse me your Letter to the University. My Lady *Sandwich* is gone to *Hinchinbrook*, I hear, in order to set up *Charles Boyle* against Mr. *Wortley Montagu's* Interest at *Huntington*: *Vive la Guerre*, whosoever is chosen or cast out, or on what side soever things turn. I am, most truly, &c.

MAT. PRIOR.

P.S. Tho' I am no longer in a Secretary's Office, Venison would not poison a Commissioner of Commerce, and Does are now in season; which may be useful to inform Mr. *Woolaston* of, when next your Lordship writes to him.

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To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, December 22. 1700.

THO' Mons. de Tallard set out, as I mentioned, yet he did not embark till the *Thursday* after, so that he could not be in *England* when yours of the 6th, which I have received, came away. I was yesterday at *Versailles*, and I continue to go as I did formerly. I know they are a little suspicious of what we are a doing, and will be more so in case Mons. de Tallard believes all that is said at *London*. I did take notice to Mons. de Torcy, in general Words, of the Change of the Scene of *Europe* in a little time; that all Princes would now be obliged to begin again, and to take Measures conformable to the present Posture of Affairs. He could not but allow it; but still he was of opinion, that the Peace of *Europe* was much more secured by this Alteration. When I mentioned *Portugal*, he said they could not think themselves in any danger, since the King had ordered his Minister there, as soon as he accepted the Will, to assure the King of *Portugal* that he was ready to enter into a League offensive and defensive with him.

By this you will see they are before-hand with any Proposal or Offer the Emperor can make. As to *Holland*, the French Ambassador there will have given them Assurances; but you may rely on what I acquaint you, that it will be on condition that their Troops leave *Flanders*, which they will not admit here on any Terms, and I am apt to think that they will be ingenuous enough to own it. Yet at the same time they'll declare they will send no French Troops, but in defence of the Country, in case the new King of *Spain* desires it. They will, if possible, make the States declare themselves before the Meeting of our Parliament.

The Envoy of *Mantua* has had a publick Audience to congratulate the King. The Duke d'Offuna has been here, he is a young Man, and his Hair was after the *Spanish* manner when I saw him; but they soon made him a Beau. Before he waited on the King, his Hair was cut, curled, and powdered. It is certain, that the Men of Quality of *Spain* talk of nothing now, but of coming into the French Habits.

There is nothing stirring at *St. Germain's*. They now disown and are ashamed of what I told you concerning the P. Prince of *Wales*. The late King resents the Proceedings of *Scotland*, and declares it publicly; so that several of the *Scots* have retired from *St. Germain's* to *Paris*. They are apprehensive of a new Parliament in *England*, for fear some of their Friends should be left out; which makes me wish there may be one, tho' in a matter of that consequence the Measures ought not to be taken from thence. I have sent you a Medal, of which I acquainted Lord *Jersey* some time ago, that a great Quantity was making for *England*, but I could not get one till now. It is done by *Rotier*, who was formerly in our Mint, and I do not doubt but the *Jacobites* have them.

As to what you write concerning the two *East-India* Companies, I hope it will have good Success. Nothing can hurt us but our own Divisions, and I am troubled when I think Men will act against their own Interest, provided they think it is to the Prejudice of others. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Decemb. 12. 1700.

I Hope Mr. Chetwynd is got well to *Paris*, and that you have forwarded the Letter he brought you, and that care has been taken to secure the Letter in case of Accidents. I received your Excellency's Letter of the 18th on *Tuesday* last, and sent it immediately to *Hampton-Court*.

I hear from *Calais* that *Meers* is come thither, and is gone to *Dunkirk*. He that tells me this, is to see him again at his return.

I gave you an Account in my last of Count *Tallard's* Arrival, and of his desiring me to demand an Audience for him, which I did on *Tuesday* Morning, and the King appointed the next Day at Eleven. As I was going to take Coach at *Hampton-Court*, *Monf. Tallard* arrived, so I stopped to acquaint him with the Hour appointed next day. He said, that being there, he thought fit to go and make his Leg to the King; which I told him he might do as he thought fit. I went away for *London*, but I hear he came into the Bed-Chamber before the King went to the Treasury; the King stopped a little to speak to him about his Journey, and so went on to the Treasury, and the Ambassador returned to *London*. He went again next Day to his Audience. I was not there, but I hear it was very short. He delivered his Letter to the King, saying very little at the presenting of it, and then stood silent. The King said something to him about his own Inclinations to preserve the Peace of *Europe*; in manifesting whereof, he might perhaps have advanced too far, but he was very desirous that all the World should be satisfied of his Dispositions towards the publick Tranquillity. I understand the Ambassador's Answer was to this effect; That his Master had the same Inclinations to Peace, and thought he had given a Proof of it, by accepting the King of *Spain's* Will. His Majesty seemed not to understand how that could be made out, and the Ambassador proceeded no farther; but only made a particular Compliment on his own account, how much he valued the Honour of returning hither again, to assure his Majesty of his profound Respects, and so took his leave, and went immediately back to *London*. His Majesty had not opened the Letter while the Ambassador was with him, it not being usual: But reading it afterwards, he finds it is there said of the Ambassador, "*Qu'il expliquera particulièrement les justes raisons qui nous ont obligés de preferer le Repos public à nos interets particuliers, en acceptant comme nous avons fait, le Testament du feu Roy Catholique en faveur du Roy nostre petit-fils.*" "That he will explain distinctly the just Reasons that have obliged Us to prefer the publick Tranquillity to Our private Interests, by accepting, as we have done, the Will of the late Catholic King, in favour of the King our Grandson." And therefore his Majesty seems a little surprized, that he did not enlarge further at his Audience, or desire some other Time for the doing it. I returned the Ambassador the Visit that Evening. He told me he had been at *Hampton-Court* at the Time I had appointed him, that he was but a very short time with the King: "*Qu'il avoit rendu la lettre & s'estoit acquité de sa commission.*" While I was with him, a Servant came in to tell him there was a Gentleman arrived from *France* to speak with him. So that shortned my Visit too, and we had no talk of any Business.

I have only to add, that his Majesty declared this Day in Council, that he had appointed my Lord *Rocheſter* Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, who was present, and soon after kissed his Majesty's Hand. I believe he will not be going thither till Spring. In the mean time, I suppose there will be another Commission of Justices, that my Lord *Galway* may come over. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Decemb. 25. 1700.

A Person of Distinction is come here from Prince *Vaudemont*, his Name is *Colmonero*. It is thought that he brings an account of the Affairs at *Milan*, and of the March of some of the Emperor's Troops towards *Italy*. Whereupon 16 Battalions are ordered thither, who are to embark the eighth of next Month, this Stile, at *Antibes*. They are to debark at a Port belonging to the *Genouese*, as stipulated by a former Treaty with *Spain*, whereby they are to permit this to auxiliary Troops. So that on the 20th they will be at *Milan*. They reckon that they consist of about 8000 Men. All the

the Forces that were in *Catalonia*, and towards *Bayonne*, are marching into *Dauphinè*. The Army that is intended for *Italy*, is to consist of sixty Battalions, and eighty Squadrons of Horse; four Lieutenant-Generals, and six Major-Generals. The two first of the Lieutenant-Generals are to embark with these sixteen Battalions. It is said that the whole Army will amount to 40,000 Men, if there be occasion. There is no doubt but they will send what they can, since they may by these means not only oppose the Imperialists entering into *Italy*, but they may attack them in their own Country. There is one *Albergotti*, Nephew to *Magalotti*, Governour of *Valenciennes*, an *Italian*, and a Major-General here, gone towards *Italy*, and it is thought to *Venice*; where perhaps he is to command the Troops of that Republick, at least he has a Commission that is kept very secret.

Mr. *Cherwynd* arrived here last night, and I have sent to Mons. *de Torcy* for a Pass, else *Joly*, whom I send, will certainly be stop'd. I expect it every moment, and all things are ready for him to set out. I have done what you thought proper; for I am of opinion, he does not understand any *English*.

I have already acted with those Persons you mentioned, as you intimated to me; and I can easily continue it, without giving suspicion to any. I take it to be right, and I am confident it will be well received, tho' I believe Monsieur *de Harcourt*, who is there, will soon be informed of it.

I was yesterday to make a Visit of Ceremony to Mons. *de Chamillard*. I was willing to know his Thoughts a little on what has happened, by way of discourse, which cannot have any Consequences. His Expression, as to *Holland*, was, that he owned it was very difficult to prevent Peoples Fears of what may happen hereafter; but that in great measure it may be done, by making of Leagues offensive and defensive with each other, &c. and that the King would contribute all he could towards it. It is certain that at present they do not desire to break with *England*. What they will aim at here, is the sending the *Dutch* Troops out of *Flanders*, and I am satisfied that it is their Design; so that it is very proper that Mons. *de Tallard* should be brought to explain himself on that Subject. His coming so abruptly to *Hampton-Court*, before he had an Answer from you, shews the Nature of the Man: But besides, as they suspect what we are a doing, so I see they are here in the last impatience to know our Resolutions, and there is not a time I go to *Versailles* that they do not expect I should say something of that Matter.

The Discourse you had with Mons. *de Tallard*, was much the same with what I had with him before he went from hence. I am apt to think that what regards the Fief of *Milan* is true.

I have sent you the late King of *Spain's* Will, with the Letter from the Regents which is just printed by Order. I believe you have the Contents of it, but not so perfect. I am obliged to you for your Care of my Extraordinaries. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Dec. 16. 1700. O.S.

COUNT *Tallard* has not been at Court since his Audience of Wednesday, nor have I seen him, or heard from him, since I made him my Visit that day, as I have already acquainted you. I don't know whether he has taken any thing amiss; that he can have no reason for it, you will judge by the Accounts I have sent you: if you find therefore that the Accounts he has writ into *France* are different from what I sent you last Post, you will endeavour to make things rightly understood, that we may not fall into Coldnesses upon being misapprehended; but this reserved Humour M. *Tallard* seems to be in, looks

looks as if he had writ something home, upon which he expected further Orders. We have lost my Lord Chief Justice *Treby*. I am, &c.

JAMES VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 29. 1700.

I Hope mine of the 25th will have satisfied you that I made all the Dispatch possible. I was obliged to send to *Versailles*, else Mr. *Jolly* had gone away the Night Mr. *Chetwynd* arrived. He set out the next day about Noon, and I cannot see that there can happen any Accident, unless by Sickness, he being not accustomed to Fatigue: I have ordered him to send me word from several places, when he arrives; and I do hope by the third of next Month, this Stile, it will be delivered. I cannot think but as soon as it is mentioned there, they will send notice hither, there being too good an Understanding at present to doubt it; and for the future I shall rather apprehend that the Ministers in *Spain* will become *French* than their King *Spanish*, by reason we have hitherto seen that they have studied more their own Interest than either their Prince or Country's, and Louis d'Or will not be wanting on such an Occasion. There are great Sums returned already, as is said for their King's Use, but some others will find their Advantage in it. I was yesterday with Monf. *de Torcy*. He took notice to me that the King had received Monf. *de Tallard* very favourably, as he went to the Treasury, which was a good Sign of Matters going well, and that he was to have an Audience the next day, which now we have an account of, since I have yours of the 12th. I should have thought that he ought to have took notice of the Expressions in the *French* King's Letter, but, you see, he was willing to avoid it, on several accounts, and he could only have repeated what the King knew already. I find that Monf. *Lelienroot* at the *Hague* goes between the *French* Ambassador and the Pensioner, in order to accommodate the Affairs. He has reason for it. The King of *Sweden* will want our Assistance, I fear, and it will have its Merit in this Court. Monf. *Palmquist* often speaks to me, but my Answer is always in general Terms, and that I do not know what the King's Intentions are. Monf. *de Torcy* mentioned to me the Project of a League between *England*, *France*, *Spain*, and *Holland*, for the Security of *Flanders*, and any other Prince may come into it. Monf. *Lelienroot* had made this Proposal, and the King here is ready to consent to it, and give all sort of Assurances that can be desired; and he hoped I had or would acquaint the King with the Disposition they were in to contribute towards the publick Peace. I said, that it could not be doubted but the King had the same Desire and Concern for the Peace of *Europe*, which was manifest by the Treaty, and it was plain that he could have no other Prospect. As to the Proposal of M. *Lelienroot*, I knew nothing of it: but I supposed the Meaning of it was, that all things in *Flanders* should remain as they are. Then he explained himself and said, that as the King did not intend to send any Troops thither, so it could not be expected that the *Dutch* should stay there, except only such as belong to the King of *Spain*. I have long perceived that this was their Design. I only said, that I thought *Spain* could never apprehend any thing from the *Dutch* Troops remaining there, tho' I could not tell but it might give Apprehensions to others, if they were removed. He would have argued this Matter, but I avoided it. I am confident that, if in *Spain* it should be approved of, it will be opposed here. Yet if the Emperor can make any head, so as to be able to give them trouble, and *Portugal* should be dissatisfied, as I hear they are, I cannot but think they may be brought to what Terms we please.

Albergotti, whom I mentioned to you, and who I thought was gone for *Italy*, is now at *Metz*, and several Regiments are ordered to march towards *Thionville*, where they will soon have a considerable Body of Troops, lest there should be any Design against *Luxemburg*; and the Marechal *de Villeroy* is going thither in a few days, which is not yet publick, but I have it from

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such good Hands, that I do not in the least doubt it. They are also to have a considerable Body of Men towards *Strasburg*. I know they are obliged by this to draw all their Forces from *Flanders*; which ought to convince us, as they say, that they have no other Design but to prevent the Emperor or his Allies from breaking in upon them. Three Regiments of Dragoons are ordered to embark at *Toulon* for *Italy*. I cannot but think *Monf. de Tallard* will have said something more by this time, else I do not understand their Proceeding, unless they expect we should begin.

However the King may intend to dispose of me, I must beg Leave of His Majesty to come over to *England*, tho' it should be only for a Month, or even less, to settle my own Affairs; which I assure you are in great disorder, and I may be a considerable Loser by it. My Steward in the Country died about six Months since, and he that is at *London* is so ill, that he can do nothing. I do not propose this 'till it be convenient, and that my Absence will not prejudice His Majesty's Service, which I shall always prefer above all other Considerations. I see you have paid the Fifty Louis d'Or. As to that Person, I found him settled here, and the laying of him totally aside, may be of ill consequence; for it may be in his power to do hurt, tho' I fear he can never do much good, at least since my being here I have never learned any thing of him. He always says there is nothing doing; whatever I acquainted you with, came from other Hands. I am sensible it is not much, but the Care must be the same, lest any thing should happen of consequence, and it is the most troublesome part of my Business here. Last Week one *Williams*, who carries and brings the Letters from *St. Germain*s to *Paris*, was, as he was going with Letters that came from *England* (for they come to them regularly every Post) set upon, and he was never heard of since. They are under Concern, and think this might be done by Order of the *French* Court, or that he is gone of himself for *England*, in order to be considered there. This is all that I know of it at present. As to Captain *Magrath*, he proposed going for *England* long before *Meers* came hither. He may be his Friend, for ought I know; and having other Business to think on then, I only kept him on. If it is thought proper, I will discourse with him fully before I let him know that he may go, and act according as I find, and give you notice. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Dec. 30. 1700.

THO' the last Letters from *Paris* are dated the 13th, yet that your Excellency honoured me with, is but of the 5th. I thank you for your Goodness to me in forwarding my Letters to the King our Master.

The Affairs here continue to represent a lively Image of the Inconstancy of human Maxims, the Regency of *Spain* doing all that it can to draw on it the Yoke of *France*; but, provided *England* and *Holland* keep firm, there may be means found to make them return to their true Interest, and to maintain the new King in a convenient Independency. The Duke of *Harcourt* set out yesterday, after he had procured the sending of Orders for the transporting of the *Spanish* Troops out of *Catalonia* to *Milan*: but before the Money, that is necessary for this Voyage, be ready, the said Troops will have time to prepare themselves. The Misery is so great, that they have obliged even the *Spanish* Domesticks, designed for the future King, to find themselves the Expences of their Journey; and this Nation is nevertheless so extravagantly proud, that no Expression can equal their Arrogance. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 1. 1701.

I find by yours of the 16th of *December* that you wanted two Posts. I am satisfied that *Monf. de Tallard* has no reason to take any thing ill, neither do I believe that he has wrote any thing of that nature hither: for the last time I saw *Monf. de Torcy*, he told me, that *M. de Tallard* had been very favourably received by the King. I imagine that his not coming to Court, as he used to do, proceeds from his having nothing to propose, or that at least that what we desire, should come first from us. It may be also, that they do not think it proper to make any more Advances 'till we declare ourselves in relation to the new King of *Spain*. Also they may think, that the King will return some Answer to the *French* King's Letter. These are only my Conjectures, but I hope, by the next Post, to give you some lights, and tell you how matters stand. You must not wonder if there be a sort of Coldness for the present. *Monf. de Tallard* cannot but think we have some reason not to be so well satisfied, after what has passed, and he knows very well how I am now looked upon at this Court. I cannot in the least complain of *M. de Torcy*: He is extremely civil to me, but in general there is a mighty shyness, of which I take no sort of notice, and do as I used to do. All things move here as the King takes notice of them; and since the Accepting of the Will, he has never spoke one word to me, tho' I continue to make my Court every Tuesday.

The *Dutch* Ambassador is very ill, which is a Misfortune at this time: besides, as he cannot live long, they acquaint him with nothing of what is doing in *Holland*. I am told that the *French* King has wrote again to the States, to declare themselves by such a time, else he shall look upon them as taking Measures with the Emperor, and act accordingly, to prevent their Designs. By what I perceive of things, this was not so peremptory as it was said; tho' that they will press the States, is not to be doubted. I am informed just now, that an Express is come from *Madrid*, and that the Regents have desired the *French* King to accept of the Generalship of the Monarchy of *Spain*, and that they have sent Orders to all the Viceroy, Governors, &c. in all Parts, to obey his Orders punctually in all matters whatsoever. If this be true, as it is very probable, one may judge what will be the Consequence.

I gave the *Venetian* Ambassador the Pass. He mentioned to me a sort of Dispute that has happened at *Zant*, between one of our Ships and their Fort, upon the account of saluting. I find he thinks the Ship was in the wrong, and, as it is represented, I do not know but it may be so. If you have any direct Account of it, you will be able to judge. He gave me a Memorial, as from himself, which I send you. I believe the *Venetian* Ambassador thinks that our Consul may have made some Complaint, or at least that he will do it; so that this is a sort of a Justification. There is no doubt but they desire to be well with *England*, and if this Ship has demanded what is not usual, it ought to be prevented for the future. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Dec. 23. 1700. O. S.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 29th instant arrived yesterday, and as soon as I had decyphered it, I laid it before His Majesty, being then at *Hampton-Court*. His Majesty commanded me to acquaint you that he does not know what *Mr. Lelienroot's* Project is, any further than the account you give of it, nor does he know upon what Grounds he proposes it; but he supposes it arises from *Monf. Lelienroot* or *Monf. Palmquist*, without any Directions from the King of *Sweden*.

His

His Majesty approves of what you replied to *Monf. de Torcy* upon his explaining that it was the Intention of that Court not to allow of the Continuance of the *Dutch* Troops in *Flanders*. If these Methods are pursued, it will be hard to make it understood that they are meant to free People from their Jealousies and Apprehensions.

Count *Tallard* is still as reserved as he was. Perhaps he may be at Court again to-morrow, since His Majesty comes to *Kensington* this Evening, and will stay there 'till Saturday next.

His Majesty intends to give you leave to come over on your private Affairs, as soon as you can be well spared from thence, but at present he thinks it would be very inconvenient. I hope therefore your Concerns will admit of some Delay.

If *Brocard* has no other Answers to give you from time to time, I hope you will let him know they are not very satisfactory ones, and that the Business must be put into other hands. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 5. 1701.

I Cannot perceive that *Monf. de Tallard* has writ any thing to this Court of what you imagined: but I do find that he has no Orders to make any Proposals whatsoever, 'till we explain ourselves, or return some Answer to the Letter he delivered to His Majesty; so that having nothing to say, and as Affairs stand, this may be the Reason that he comes not so often to Court as formerly. *Monf. de Torcy* asked me whether I had not received any Orders. I answered no. It is certain that this looks as if they expected somewhat. They are here very angry with the *Dutch* for not complying. As for us, whatever they think, they say nothing, and I found the Court yesterday more obliging than it used to be of late; tho' these things are not to be minded here. The Regents of *Spain* have wrote a Letter to this King, wherein, after a great many Compliments, they desire he would take their Monarchy under his Protection, and say, that Orders were already given to the Governors, &c. to obey all his Orders whatsoever. This was occasioned by a Letter this King had wrote, acquainting them that the Prince of *Vaudemont*, believing that the Emperor's Troops might march for *Milan*, said, that he was not in a condition to oppose them, and therefore desired some Troops, which he had ordered should be forthwith embarked; and he would not have done this, without first knowing their Thoughts, had not the great Consequence of it obliged him to lose no time. This caused the Discourse as if they had desired him to take the Generalship: but it is not otherwise than as I acquaint you. The Regency will soon be at an end, for the new King is, or will be, in *Spain* in a few days. *Monf. de Harcourt* has been once received into the *Junta*, and was placed on the left hand of the Queen, Cardinal *Portocarrero* being on the right hand. It is said, that the Emperor's Minister had always a Privilege of being in the Council, whenever any thing was treated of that related to the whole House of *Austria*. Whether it was so formerly or no, yet this shews that the Regents seek all Occasions to oblige the King here.

When they had Thoughts here of sending *Monf. de Villeroy* towards *Luxemburg*, it was to prevent what they feared; which was, that the Elector Palatine had some Design on that Town: But the *Spaniards* having reinforced the Garrison, this Journey is stopped for the present.

The *Portugal* Envoy has received Orders to compliment this King, and it is said that he is to have an Audience on *Tuesday* next, the Court being now at *Marly*.

I am told that the Duke of *Berwick* is going for *Rome*. The *Spanish* Ambassador now goes to *St. Germain*s.

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The Letters of *Thursday* last are not yet come, and *Monf. de Torcy* has received none from *Monf. de Tallard* since the 16th past, O. S. The *Dutch* Ambassador is extreme ill. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Dec. 26. 1700. O. S.

I Have received this Day your Excellency's Letter of the first of *January*, and laid it immediately before his Majesty. He received Advice at the same time from *Monf. Schonenberg*, to the same effect of what your Excellency mentions, that the Regents had sent Directions to all the Governours of their Provinces, that they should obey the King of *France's* Orders in every thing. It remains now only to see what use he will make of it; perhaps your next Letters may give greater light into it. In the mean time, I can only acquaint you that *Monf. Tallard* now comes regularly to Court once a Week. He was at *Kensington* on *Tuesday* last, in the same manner as you go to *Versailles*, without having any thing to say to the King. I did not see him there, nor I have not seen him any where else; but I hear he talks of going away in *February*, and they say some of his Chapel at least are going away sooner.

Count Maffei, the Envoy of *Savoy*, had his publick Audience to-day. He is like to stay some time with us. We expect every day to hear of the Arrival of *Count Wratislaw*, the Emperor's Envoy, who is come into *Holland*, and I suppose the Wind only keeps him there.

As to what the *Venetian* Ambassador tells you about the *Pensance*, we have writ to *Venice* to complain of the Governour of *Zant* for his ill Treatment of that Ship, denying them the liberty of furnishing themselves with Provisions, because they did not salute the Castle, when they refused to give him Gun for Gun; which the Commanders of his Majesty's Ships of War are obliged by their Instructions to insist on, and we suppose they have always observed it. The Envoy of *Savoy* has lately made the like Representation here, that one of our Frigots refused to salute their Castle at *Ville Franche* for the same Reason, that they pretend to give two Shot less. But in answer to it, we shewed him the Instructions given by the Admiralty, that are general, and have been the same time out of mind, that they should make no Salutes, but upon Assurances of receiving Gun for Gun.

As to the Paper given by *Monf. Torcy*, I shall inquire into the Fact of it, and then lay it before his Majesty. We had a Council this Morning, and then his Majesty gave Directions for issuing the Writs, which will bear date this Day.

His Majesty returns to-morrow Evening to *Hampton-Court*, and will not be at *Kensington* again till this Day fortnight, the Council being adjourned till that Day. I am, with great respect, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R

Paris, January 8. 1701.

I Have the Favour of yours of *December* 23d. I take it, that the Proposals which *Monf. Lelienroot* makes, are of himself, and not by Order, and that *Monf. Palmquist* does the same thing here. They might have their ends in it for the Service of their Master; but the Success the King of *Sweden* has had lately, may be, will put an end to all those Projects.

The Constable of *Castille* is expected here next Week, and is to make a publick Entry, having the Character of Ambassador Extraordinary from the new King. It is usual on those Occasions to notify their Arrival to all the Ministers on the Day of their Entry, and they send a Gentleman to compliment them. Whether he will do it to me, I cannot tell. Perhaps he will try by another Person what I will do in that case. It will be necessary I

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should have his Majesty's Orders how I am to act, and that as soon as you can send them; for he will be ready to make his Publick Entry in a little time, because it is to be in Mourning. The other *Spanish* Ambassador was last *Monday* at *St. Germain's*. I am told that he made a Compliment from the Regents in general Terms, without any Letter from them, saying, that as he made no Entry, nor was like to do it, he looked upon himself as a private Person. This makes the Court of *St. Germain's* think that he that is a coming will have an Audience of them in Ceremony; but I cannot think it.

Monf. *Spanheim* has had a private Audience of the King, when he presented a Letter from the Elector of *Brandenburg*, and shewed the Reasons why his said Master did intend to take upon himself the Title of King. He declared that the Elector had no other Engagement with the Emperor, but the renewing a Treaty which was made with the late Elector in 1686. That the Emperor's acknowledging him was in no other wise, than what he hoped from other Princes. All the Answer the King made, was, that he should see it by the Letter, and then would consider of what he had said. There is no likelihood of this King's owning him, and Monf. *Spanheim* expects soon to have Orders to leave this Court.

I am told, for certain News, that the Duke of *Savoy* has consented to let the *French* Troops pass thorough his Country, and the three Regiments of Horse that were to embark, have Orders to go by Land. I am assured that in the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan* on *Philip* the Second and his Posterity, male and female, which they have here, there is a Clause, That, after this Branch, whoever succeeds is obliged to go in Person to *Vienna*, and receive the Investiture from the Emperor, otherwise it is not valid. This makes them a little uneasy here. But that matter will be decided, I suppose, by who can get the Possession.

I am assured that Monf. *de Barbesseux* died last *Wednesday*. He was taken ill but the *Friday* before, after a great Debauch. Several are talked of to succeed him.

I believe that Monf. *de Tallard* will continue his reserved Humour as long as he stays, which will be as little as he can possible. He had like to have undone himself here, by talking too freely concerning the Treaty, and how they ought to be kept to it.

I am very sensible of his Majesty's Favour, in giving me leave to come over to settle my Affairs when it is convenient; and till then, I do not desire it.

I sent you a Medal in my Letter of the 22d *December*. I find you had the Letter, but you do not take notice of the Medal. If you have it not, there is a Demonstration that our Letters are opened, tho' I do not perceive it by the Seals. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Decemb. 30. 1700. O.S.

I Have none of your Excellency's Letters to acknowledge, the *Wednesday* Male not being yet come.

Count *Wratislaw*, the Emperor's Envoy, arrived here on *Saturday* last. He goes to-morrow to *Hampton-Court*, where his Majesty has appointed him a private Audience. I hear he already begins to discourse of both the Emperor's Pretensions, as well to the *Spanish* Succession, as to the Fief of *Milan*; and that they are about publishing a Manifesto at *Vienna*, in maintenance of each of those Titles, and are resolved to justify them, tho' they stand alone in the defence of them; but they say they can't fall alone, since their Ruin must draw others after them.

I know not whether Monf. *Tallard* will be at Court to-morrow, but he has not been there since *Tuesday* last. I find he has had the same Discourse with Mr. *Hill*, which he had with me at his first coming over, about his Successor,

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to know whether Count *d'Avaux* would be agreeable here. It is a Question he can answer himself, and therefore I shall never say any thing to him about it.

His Majesty is not very well, his Appetite abates, and his Legs are more swelled; but it chiefly arises from great Thoughtfulness, in relation to the Publick. Physicians have been consulted, and have prescribed Remedies. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 12. 1701.

I Cannot but think, by the Proceedings of the Regents of *Spain*, that they are resolved to have the *French* King for their King, and that the Duke of *Anjou* is to have only the Name. There is another Express come from them, by which they acquaint this King, that they have sent Orders to their Ministers in all Courts, to act in concert with the *French*, and to obey the Orders which the *French* King shall send them; and to let them know, that *Spain* shall be included in whatever Treaty *France* shall think fit to make, and that they may sign it without staying for farther Orders from them. It is certain that this King said on this Occasion, that he was *Le premier Ministre du Roy d'Espagne*. I am opinion, that the use he will make of this Power, is, that he will shew all *Europe*, that whoever intends to keep any Measures with *Spain*, it must be by the Means of *France*, or at least with their Approbation. Besides, having such a Power, the *French* Troops may possess themselves of what Places they please. So that there is some reason to fear, that, in case Things should begin to look like a War, the *Dutch* Troops in *Flanders* may pass their time ill. I am satisfied that the *French* will avoid doing any thing of this nature as long as they can, in hopes of preventing a War; and the Measures they now seem to take are such, that they may not be esteemed the Aggressors, but rather to be on the Defensive. They are too sensible of the Condition of *France*, where there are no means left to raise any considerable Sum but by a Capitation, which is already signed: but unless there be occasion, it will not be levied. It is a very hard Tax on the People, especially when all other Impositions remain as they were during the late War, with an Augmentation of five Millions of Livres for this Year. The Lottery, which it was thought would have succeeded, comes to nothing.

Monf. *de Chamillard* has Monf. *de Barbesieux's* Place, and keeps what he had before.

It is now thought here that the War in *Italy* is certain, and this Court endeavours to persuade the Pope, and the rest of the Princes of *Italy*, to form a League against the Emperor; for, say they, without something of that nature is done, that Country will, in all likelihood, be the Seat of War. When Count *Wratislaw* arrives at *London*, you will better judge of the Intentions of the Emperor. The Envoy of *Portugal* had yesterday a publick Audience of the King, and of the Dauphin, to congratulate them on the Duke of *Anjou's* Accession to the Crown of *Spain*. He expected, as he says, only to deliver the King his Master's Letter in a private Audience, but it would not be received in that manner. I find he would willingly wait on me, and he has Orders so to do: but he would have me certify, under my hand, that whenever it does happen that there is an Envoy from *England*, and an Ambassador from *Portugal*, that then this Envoy shall do the like. This is about the giving the Hand in my own House, which I am not to give to Envoys. I told him, that I thought he need not desire it in this manner, since in the Instructions of all our Envoys they were not to demand the Hand of Ambassadors. I would be glad to know how his Majesty would have me act in this Case. The King of *Denmark* has also wrote to the King here an Answer to his Letter: but his Majesty would not receive it by Monf. *de Torcy's* Hands. So he must have an Audience, tho' I find by him that he has no Orders for that, nor any thing to say.

I have yours of *December 26*, and I do find that *Monf. de Tallard* observes the Method of this Court, in coming once a Week: with this difference only, that I always see the Secretary of State, and so keep things as right as this Juncture will permit it. Our Discourse is always in general Terms, and he knows that I have no Orders. It is some time since he told me that *Monsieur de Tallard* would be recalled, but that this King would send another that would be agreeable to his Majesty.

Count *Monasterole* is returned from *Brussels*, where his Stay was but short. I am apt to think that there is something extraordinary transacting between the Elector and this Court. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 15. 1701.

I Have none of yours to acknowledge, and have very little to acquaint you with by this Post. The Constable of *Castille* is expected every day, and several of his Retinue are come to prepare things for him. *Monf. d'Avaux* is named to go for *Holland*, upon the death of *Monf. Briord*. He has Orders to make what haste he can, and it is thought that he will leave this Place in a very few days. This looks as if they thought it absolutely necessary to have a Minister there at this Juncture, and it may be he will have ampler Instructions than he had last. He is a Person well known to the States, having been formerly there: but how acceptable he will be, that is another Question.

There is now nothing left to make the great Union betwixt *France* and *Spain* compleat, but the settling their Trade; and it is said, that all the Impositions on the Produce of *Spain* will be taken off here, as the like will be done there, in relation to the Produce of *France*. Several other Regulations are considering of, and there is no doubt but *France* will find their Account. The great Point will be, whether *France* can furnish them with Commodities proper for the *Indies*. If so, we may greatly suffer.

I have not heard from my Servant since he went for *Madrid*, tho' I take it for granted that he must be there long before now. This makes me a little uneasy. The *Spanish* Letters are not yet come, and by these I can hear nothing of him yet, so that it will be a Fortnight before I can have any certainty. In case you hear sooner by the *Groyne*, I hope you will be so kind as to let me know it.

Yesterday the Princes of *France* were to take their leaves of the new King of *Spain*, and it is computed that in twenty Days hence he will be at *Madrid*.

The Recruits for their Army here, and other necessary Preparations are going on with all diligence. They seem to think least of their Fleet; and I am of opinion, that, in case of a War, they will act as they did in the last War, and not have a Fleet, but several Squadrons and Numbers of Privateers. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 19. 1701.

I Have yours of the 30th past to acknowledge. Thursday's Mail is not yet arrived. As to what I mentioned in my last about *Monsieur d'Avaux*, there are since come Letters with advice that *Monsieur Briord* is not dead, tho' his Secretary, who was dispatched upon his being first taken ill, assured the Court that he could not live a day, so that *Monsieur d'Avaux* was named; but he is not now to go till they have an account of the other's death, which is feared will be very soon. They have here never taken notice to me of his going for *England*, and it may be that design is laid aside.

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The Letters from *Spain* are come. I had one from Monsieur *Schonenberg*, but nothing of moment in it. The next must certainly bring an account of my Servant's being arrived. I often meet the *Spanish* Ambassador, and I observe your directions. I do not in the least take notice to him, of what His Majesty's Intentions are. He began to talk with me yesterday at *Versailles*, and asked me whether we would break with them; making many professions, that whatever had passed, yet in *Spain* they had the same desire to cultivate, and increase, if possible, the Friendship with his Majesty. I told him, that I did not know but that there might be the same desire on the King my Master's part: but that he must allow, that the late Proceedings of the Regents cannot but have given great Jealousies to *Europe*, and the Regents had acted as if they were desirous of being in a manner tributary to *France*, which would be also of fatal consequence to themselves at last. His Answer was natural enough; he said, What would you have them do, whilst they are threatened with War from all parts, and are not in a condition to help themselves? But if there was any disposition on our side to continue the antient good Understanding, we should soon see another effect. This he spoke in a manner as if he had Orders for what he said; and that if I doubted, he might venture to give it under his hand, that they would renew all Treaties, &c. I find that even here they are so apprehensive of a general War, if *England* should engage itself, that they will, I am satisfied, consent to almost any thing to prevent it, even to leave the *Dutch* Troops in *Flanders* rather than fail. These Matters are proper to be transacted in *Spain*, where there may be some Faith still left. I am of opinion, that I partly know the Proposals Monsieur *Wratislaw* will make: but I cannot see the Emperor is able to perform his part; and it is said that the Prince *Louis* of *Baden* is not for having the Emperor engage in a War.

I could not tell but you might be glad to see the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan*. The Original is brought hither, and translated into *French*, which I procured from one who I have reason to think had a true Copy. Monsieur *de Boufflers* is gone for *Lisle*. His business there is to observe the Motions of others, and to act accordingly. He took a formal Leave of the Court, which shews that his stay there may be for some time.

The *Danish* Envoy has had an Audience, and has presented the Letter I mentioned to you. All that he said was only what was in the Letter, a Copy of which you must have had from Mr. *Greg*. I find by him, that the King of *Denmark* desires to keep measures with us.

Monsieur *Spanheim* has received Orders to take his leave of this Court, and is gone this Morning to acquaint Monsieur *de Torcy* with it, in order to take his leave when the Court returns from *Marly*. I do not know how that matter stands with us, nor if we own the Elector's new Title. Monsieur *Spanheim* is like to come to *England*, where I believe he will be agreeable to His Majesty. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, January 22. 1701.

I Have an Account from *Madrid*, that my Servant arrived there early on the 4th instant, without any Accident; tho' the Ways were extreme bad, yet he did it in nine days and a half: so that now I am easy. I cannot but think I shall perceive next Tuesday that the Court had some intimation of this, but I shall give them no light in that matter, tho' Monsieur *de Torcy* should mention it to me. I have hitherto avoided saying any thing of Monsieur *Tallard's* Return. Count *Guiscard*, who is in *Sweden*, desires that Post. The discourse here is, that there will be a general War, and that we shall engage in it. I do not give into that discourse in the least: for as they pretend here to do every thing to satisfy us, (which I do own are but Words) so I take

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it to be for His Majesty's service, that I carry myself so as to say always, that I am not of that opinion; unless the Proceedings of *France* and *Spain* are such as will oblige us to it, in point of Prudence, and for our own Security. *England* is in as good a Condition to begin a War as ever. It is certain they here fear a War, and do believe it will end in it, which was the Reason why Monsieur *de Boufflers* went away so on a sudden; and it is said, he is to concert some measures with the Elector of *Bavaria*. Count *Monasterole* is much at Court, and has not been with me since his return. I do not know but it is right that he should act so: yet, when I consider that the Elector of *Bavaria* would do any thing rather than lose his Government, I cannot but be sometimes a little apprehensive of what is transacting here, which makes me give you this hint, tho' His Majesty may be better informed.

The Pope's Nuntio and the *Venetian* Ambassador have had private Audiences of the King. I am promised to see the Brief the Pope has sent to the Emperor. Their business is to be a sort of Mediators, to prevent a War in *Italy*; which if they can do, will be a means to keep Neuter, which has ever been a Maxim of the Republick of *Venice*.

The Duke of *Berwick* is gone for *Rome*, and Mr. *Hamilton*, who commanded in *Ireland*, is gone with him. His Instructions are to engage the Pope in their Interest, and to obtain some Money, and also a Cardinal's Cap to be disposed of by the late King, which they think will give him great Credit in *Europe*. There is nothing doing at present at *St. Germain's*. They are impatient to see what sort of Parliament we are like to have.

I am glad to find by your's of the 2d instant, that His Majesty was so well. The Envoy of *Mantua* has sent me a Letter for the King, which is only a Compliment. We want last Monday's Letters. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Venice, January 22. 1701.

PERHAPS your Excellency will be curious to know how and why General *Richards* left this Service, at which they are here highly displeased; and now so much the more, that they have occasion for him. He being Creditor for 3600 Ducats, and by an Agreement, which I myself saw in his Ducal Commission, they were to pay him every four Months anticipately; they ordered him for the *Morea*; so he shipped his Baggage on an *English* Ship for *Zant*, and consigned it to Consul *Paul*. He had the Government's Licence, and Officers to carry his Goods on board, and he kept only his Clothes and two Chests of fine *English* Plate to carry with him. The Great *Grimani* was * *Savio di Scrittura* in waiting, who dispatched Officers, &c. But not being acquainted with General *Richards*, he bluntly examined him, if he understood Fortifications, and seemed to compare a Founder of Guns in the Arsenal, unto him, who made several Models for Forts in the *Morea*, that General *Richards* disapproved of: But *Grimani* protecting the Gun-Founder, instead of paying *Richards* 3600 Ducats, paid him only one thousand, so *Richards* lamented to other precedent Sages, and General *Molini*, &c. his Friends, how *Grimani* affronted him, and did not pay him neither, and that he could not go into the *Morea* without Money. He received good words and offices from them, but no more Money: And he was early advised and persuaded, that except a War happened, he should have his patience tired; so he held correspondence with General *Steinau* in the King of *Poland's* Service, under the notion of preferring his Brother, but negotiated for himself; and the King sent an Officer on purpose, with the Contract and Invitation. So one day after dinner, for he lay at my House, he pretended with *Brown* to go into the Country to take the Air, and put his Portmanteaus in the Gondola with his Servants, desiring me to keep his Letters by me, if any

* Which answers to our Secretary of War.

any came, till he returned, without saying any thing to me, or any body else, that he parted for good and all; so I heard not any more of him till his arrival at *Vienna*: That he was to have 5000 Crowns a year during his Life, a Regiment that might yield as much more, and be Major-General of the Artillery to the King of *Poland*. His Brother to have 200 Crowns a Month, and *Brown* 2000 Crowns a Year. He sent his Plate before to *Vienna*, under the notion of his Brother's Clothes. And thus he left this People amazed and angry, with 2600 Ducats in his Debt, and ordered Consul *Paul* to let his Goods pass on to *England* by the Ship he sent them in. They have wrote to him under-hand, and desire the Designs from him which he made. He answers briskly, and lays open his Case politically, and said he will gratify them, hoping they will also pay him his Arrears. Thus your Excellency will see by this prolix Narrative, (which please to pardon) that the Management of *Richards* was politely effected, to the great vexation of this Government: for they thought of banishing him, and letting the Paws of the Lion fly after him. But at present all is hush'd, and the Great *Grimani* disgraced, will never be a *Savio* in the College any more; for he was elected to go into the *Morea* himself, as a Syndic Inquisitor: but not accepting it, he is banished the Council and *Bröglio*, &c. I am, &c.

HUGH BROUGHTON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 13. 1701. O. S.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 19th arrived late on Saturday, and I carried it yesterday to *Hampton-Court*. His Majesty read it uncyphered, but has given me no Directions to send you. He was pleased to tell me, that the States had resolved upon an Answer to the King of *France's* Letter, that it would be given to Monsieur *Briord*, and sent to Monsieur *Heemskerk*. I suppose he will communicate it to your Excellency, and it is not to be doubted but His Majesty and they are of the same Sentiments.

I have a Packet from Monsieur *Schonenberg* this Evening, dated the $\frac{1}{2}$ of *December*. He makes no mention of the arrival of your Express. He tells us, that they have a great mind to get the Queen to remove from *Madrid* before the new King's arrival, and the Duke of *Harcourt* join'd in it. I have a Letter from Mr. *Aglionby* of the first of *January*, our Stile. He arrived at the *Corunna* the day before. He was to begin his Journey towards *Madrid* the next day, but did not expect to get thither in less than twelve days.

The *French* Ambassador came to the Office to-day, but I did not see him, for we had been six days upon the *Westminster* Poll, which is like to last as many more. The Ambassador brought two Memorials, one about a *Dutch* Ship cast away on the Isle of *Wight*, that had *French* Goods on board, bound for *Rotterdam*. They desire directions for the delivering the Goods that have been saved, upon paying Salvage, which is fit to be complied with. The other Memorial is against Captain *Legg*, a Commander of one of our Frigats, that he seized one *Bolton* in an *Irish* Vessel within the reach of the Guns of Fort *St. Lewis* in *America*. There is such a Man brought home a Prisoner, by express Orders from the King. Where he was taken, I don't know, but he was a notorious Confederate with *Kidd*, and has got the greatest part of his stol'n Goods, so that I believe the Parliament will have something to say to him; tho' the Ambassador's demands are, that he and his Ship should be set at liberty. That we must be excused in, he being committed to *Newgate* for confederating with Pirates. It will be a satisfaction to your Excellency, that I tell you the King look'd very well yesterday. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, January 26. 1701.

I Take this Opportunity of Mr. *Lepell*'s going Post for *England*, to acquaint you how Affairs stand here, and I cannot but think they are now coming to some determination of what we are to trust to. The *Dutch* Ambassador has received a Resolution of the States, which is contained in the Memorial I have inclosed. His Secretary gave it yesterday to Monsieur *de Torcy*, he not being in a condition now, nor ever like to be in a condition to go to Court, having in a manner lost his Senses; which is very unfortunate at this Juncture. It is true, his Secretary was formerly with Mr. *Nieuport*, who settled the Tariff between *France* and *Holland*, and understands this Court very well: But without one has a Character, one can do but little here. I think myself obliged to inform His Majesty of this; that the States may, if they think it proper, send some Person hither: for tho' most of this Affair will be transacted at the *Hague*, yet if they mean to come to an Accommodation in relation to their Security, and so consequently ours; I fear it will require somebody here also to manage it, and so not wholly to rely on what the *French* there will represent. I shall be ready to do or act in whatever His Majesty orders me. The States Memorial was well received, and by reason Monsieur *de Briord* is not yet well enough recovered to transact this Affair, Monsieur *d'Avaux* will set out for *Holland* as soon as they can prepare his Instructions. Monsieur *de Torcy* took notice of it to me, and said, that they should see that the King was ready to agree to any thing that was reasonable. The answer I made him was, that I hoped this Proceeding might produce a good Understanding, that I supposed they did not desire but that *Holland* should find their Advantage and Security in this manner, as much as by the Treaty of Partition, which he seemed to agree to; and this was all that passed. I am nevertheless told by one, that they suspect here that the Intention of the States is only to gain time, and it is to be feared also that they will expect that the States shall make their Demands before the *French* explain themselves how they will agree with them. Yet it will perhaps have that good effect as to prevent Misunderstandings, which might possibly engage us in a War, tho' neither side should intend or desire it. I am satisfied that here, as it is in no manner their Interest, they will avoid it if they can. They know too well the condition of *France*: besides, that a War may happen to be their total ruin. Nevertheless you will see that they put themselves in a posture of defence, having ordered the increasing every Troop with ten Men, both in the Horse and the Dragoons. Besides this, they raise one hundred and twenty new Troops of Horse, and seventy-two of Dragoons, which is computed will in the whole amount to sixteen thousand Men. So that when all is compleat, their Forces of Horse and Dragoons will consist in thirty-six thousand, and their Foot one hundred and forty thousand. I am endeavouring to get an exact List of their Troops, and I shall send it you. They are obliged to give more than ever they did for these Levies, and it will take a considerable time to compleat them.

I find they think that the War in *Italy* is certain, unless the Pope, who acts at present in the nature of a Mediator, can prevail with the Emperor. He has sent a Brief to the King of *France*, and also one to the Republick of *Venice*, the Copies of which I have inclosed, lest you should have a mind to see them. I suppose they do not rely much on the Effect these Briefs will produce; so Cardinal *d'Etrées* is going to all the Princes of *Italy*, and it is thought he is now at *Venice*, where he will also see the Duke of *Mantua*. They would fain persuade him to let a *French* or *Spanish* Garrison come in to his Chief Town, but at present he will not consent to it.

They write from *Naples*, that several Persons are put in Prison for having dispersed Papers, inciting them to throw off the Yoke of *Spain*, and to have a King of their own.

Mons.

Monf. *de Boufflers* going away fo of a sudden, caufes many Reflections, and it is faid that he is gone for *Bruffels*, which you will know, if it is fo.

Monf. *de Tallard* preffes extreamly to return hither, in hopes of having fome considerable Post in cafe of a War, and he would fain have Orders to take his Leave, tho' he fhould remain for fome time, that fo he might be in a readinefs to go as Occafions fhould happen. He propofes alfo, that an Envoy might be fent for the prefent. This I perceived by the Difcourfe of Monf. *de Torcy*. I only faid, that I did not think it was ufual for a Minifter, when he has taken his Leave, to ftay at a Court. I cannot tell but, in cafe any is fent, they may ftill think of Monf. *d'Avaux*: Tho' Monf. *de Torcy* has not taken notice of it to me in the leaft, nor have I to him. I fuppose there will be nothing done of this nature, but Monf. *de Tallard* will firft endeavour to know his Majefty's Thoughts, and how he will like it. As they do act in this, fo, perhaps, my Stay here will be longer or shorter.

Monf. *d'Aversberg* is, as I hear, not recalled from *Madrid*. I cannot learn whether he is to tranfact any thing there, and I cannot fee any Expedient for the Emperor; unlefs, after all the Preparations he has made, he will content himfelf with the King of *Spain's* marrying one of the Arch-Dutcheffes.

I am forry you have fo much Trouble with your Election, and I hope it will be foon over. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Extract out of the Register of the Resolution of the Lords the STATES-GENERAL of the United Netherlands.

Translated out of Dutch.

Saturday, January 15. 1701.

WAS heard the Report of Mefrs. *Ham*, and other their High and Mightineffes Deputies for Foreign Affairs, and having in confequence and in compliance of their Commifforial Refolutions of the 4th of *December* laft, and of other of fubfequent dates, further examined the Memorial delivered to their High and Mightineffes by the Count of *Briord*, Ambaffador Extraordinary of the King of *France*, containing the Reafons why his faid Majefty has thought good to accept the Will of the laft deceased King of *Spain* of glorious Memory, together with what afterwards had appeared to their High and Mightineffes, concerning thofe Affairs, more fully mentioned in the faid Notes and having deliberated thereupon, it was found good, that Monf. *Heemskerk*, Ambaffador at the Court of his Majefty before-mentioned, fhall be wrote to, and that he fhall, in the moft convenient manner, represent to his Majefty, That their High and Mightineffes have examined the Contents of the before-mentioned Memorial, and have feen by it, that the Prefervation of Peace, and of the publick Tranquillity have moved his Majefty to accept the before-mentioned Testament; that his Majefty had by this followed the Meaning and Design of the Treaty of Partition, being nothing elfe but the Prefervation of the publick Quiet, which his Majefty thought was better eftablifhed by this than by the Treaty of Partition; that they have befides feen, not without pleasure, by the faid Memorial, that a true Testimony is thereby given them that their design in treating about the faid Treaty was nothing but to fecure the publick Tranquillity; and that they, as alfo the King of *Great Britain*, have equally fought to avoid the War: That their High and Mightineffes can, as to what regards themfelves, declare with truth, that they have always loved Peace and Quietnefs, in which they judge that their Interelt and a great deal of their Security confifts; that the faid Peace and publick Quiet being newly re-eftablifhed in Chriftendom, by the Treaties of *Ryfwick*, nothing has been took by them more to heart than the Prefervation of them; that they have endeavoured on all occafions to give proofs of their Sentiments and Intentions in that regard, efpecially by their coming into the Treaty about the

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Succession of the deceased King of *Spain*, when his Sickness and Weakness gave sufficient Reasons to be concerned for his Life, and to apprehend consequently that a new War might arise about the vacant Succession, if his Imperial Majesty, and his Majesty the King of *France* would both corroborate and support by Arms their Pretensions, or those of their Children, to this Succession; by which Treaty their High and Mightinesses believed that the common Quiet and Peace might be preserved, and their Security forwarded. That their High and Mightinesses are still in the same disposition in which they were heretofore; that they have as yet no other Aim nor Intention but to help to preserve the Peace and common-Repose, and to advance their Security; that they are fully persuaded that their Interest lies in the Peace and common Tranquillity; that being by their Inclination and their Interest bent for Peace, they cannot fail being extremely concerned at the new Troubles and Wars, when they hear on the one side the Motions that are made by his Imperial Majesty, and on the other side the great Preparations for War made by his Majesty of *France*, by the Augmentation of his Troops, by their Motions, and otherwise; That this causes great Inquietude among the Inhabitants here in this State and elsewhere, they fearing a new War, and being afraid that the Security, which they had reposed in the Barrier of the *Spanish Netherlands*, might be diminished: That, whilst his above named Majesty has caused to be certified to their High and Mightinesses that he has no other Intentions but the Conservation and Maintenance of Peace and publick Tranquillity, and that he is not averse to the giving their High and Mightinesses a reasonable Security; and whilst their High and Mightinesses also desire nothing else but the Preservation of the Peace and the common Quiet, together with a reasonable Security; that therefore their High and Mightinesses judge it will be necessary and expedient to confer together, about the giving on both sides such Satisfaction as will be judged necessary for the preservation of Peace, and the aforesaid Security, and to deliberate what means might be found out for the preservation of a general Peace and Quiet. That their High and Mightinesses offer themselves to enter into Conferences and Treaties about this by their Deputies with the Count of *Briord*, or whom else his aforesaid Majesty will be pleased to authorize; and that they will endeavour, in this, and on all other Occasions, to make appear to his above-named Majesty, not only their upright Intention, and Inclination for the Peace and common Quiet, but also in particular their high Esteem for the Friendship of his Majesty, and of his Affection for this State. And the Extract of this Resolution of their High and Mightinesses shall be delivered into the hands of the Count *de Briord*, by the Agent *Rosenboom*, to serve as a further Answer to the aforesaid Memorial.

Agreed with the Register.

F. FAGEL.

A Memorial presented to the FRENCH King.

Translated out of French.

S I R E,

THE Lords the States General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, my Masters, have given me Orders to represent to your Majesty, that their High and Mightinesses, after having *several times*, and with attention examined the Memorial which was delivered to them by the Count of *Briord*, containing the Reasons for the which your Majesty has accepted the Testament of the late King of *Spain*, have by that seen that your Majesty was moved to that only for the conservation of the Peace, and the general Tranquillity, in conformity to the Sense of the Treaty of Partition, believing it by this means to be better established.

That besides they were very glad to find that by the said Memorial a true Testimony is given, that their view in the Negotiation of the said Treaty was
nothing

nothing but the assuring the publick Quiet, and that equally with the King of *Great Britain*, they have sought to avoid War. That as to what regards themselves, their High and Mightinesses can declare in truth to have always loved Peace and the general Tranquillity, in which they think consists their Interest and great part of their Security.

That this Peace and general Tranquillity being anew re-established in Christendom by the Treaties of *Ryswick*, nothing has been had so much at heart as their conservation.

That they have on all occasions endeavoured to give proofs of the sincerity of their Sentiments, and of their Intention, and principally by the Treaty about the Succession of the late King of *Spain*, when his Sickness and his Weakness gave lawful Reasons to be unquiet about his Life, and to apprehend by consequence, that by the vacancy of the Crown there might arise a new War, in case that the Emperor and your Majesty would support and sustain each of You your Pretensions, or the Pretensions of your Children to the said Succession, by Arms.

That their High and Mightinesses have believed, that by the said Treaty, the general Tranquillity and the Peace would remain preserved, and their Security confirmed, and that they are still in the same disposition as before, without having any other view.

That their High and Mightinesses are entirely persuaded that their Interest consists in that conservation, and that thus bent by Inclination and by Interest to Peace, they cannot fail being disturbed at the new Troubles, whilst they learn on the one side the Motions that are made by the Emperor, and on the other side the Preparations which your Majesty makes for War, by the Augmentation of your Troops. That all this causes great Uneasiness among their Subjects, who fear a new War, and that the Security which heretofore they had put in the Barrier of the *Spanish Netherlands*, might be diminished.

That whilst your Majesty has testified to their High and Mightinesses that you have no other Intention, but that of the conservation and maintenance of the Peace, and of the general Tranquillity, and that you are disposed to give them all the reasonable satisfaction :

Their High and Mightinesses, desiring nothing but Quiet, think it very necessary to confer together, to give such contentment for the conservation of this Peace and this Security as will be judged fit, and to deliberate on the means that may be proper for it.

That on this Foundation their High and Mightinesses offer themselves to enter into Conferences with the Count of *Briord*, or with whom your Majesty shall authorize ; and that on this and other occasions they will endeavour to give to your Majesty marks, not only of their sincere Intentions, and their Inclination for Peace, but also particularly of their high Esteem for your Friendship and your Affection for their State.

V. HEEMSKERK.

Given at Versailles, the 25th of January, 1701.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, January 26. 1701.

I Must refer you to mine, which I have sent by Mr. *Lepell*, who set out very early this Morning, and hopes to be with you before this arrives. I have little to add, only that the Son of Signor *Boselli*, who is a Prisoner in the *Bastille*, resolves to go for *England*. I have done all I can to prevent him, and I have had a great deal of trouble with him and others who have solicited me in his favour. This Court tells him that they can do nothing in relation to his Father, but he must apply to the King of *England*. If you are not acquainted with this matter, the Lord *Jersey* can inform you. I suppose *Boselli* will apply himself to him or you. I have had orders not to concern myself in it, which I have punctually observed.

The

The Constable of *Castille* is expected this day. I find them more and more obliging at Court, and they do insinuate on several occasions, as if it was in my power to contribute towards a good Understanding between us and them. I cannot perceive that they have any Account from *Madrid*. Monsieur *Spanheim* has taken his leave. I hope the Parliament will act to His Majesty's satisfaction. It is certainly the Interest of *England* to do so. God preserve him to us, or else we have a miserable prospect. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, January 29. 1701.

I Have none of your's to acknowledge. The Letters that are due being not yet arrived, neither have we those from *Spain*; so that I have little to acquaint you with.

The Duke of *Savoy* makes some dispute about the passage of the *French* Troops, tho' they intend, notwithstanding that, to take it. The *French* Ambassador there having some time ago Orders to ask it, the Duke answered, in general terms, that the King was Master in all things; upon which the Ambassador had Orders to make him a Compliment: But the Duke not understanding it in that manner, a Courier was dispatched to his Minister here, which arrived on Monday last. In short, all these Chicanes are only to make the best Terms he can; but I fancy he will be deceived. He would willingly marry his Daughter to the King of *Spain*, and be paid old Debts that are due to him. I am assured that the Emperor may rely upon the King of *Portugal's* being in his Interest; and yet his Envoy here has explain'd himself much otherwise to this Court, even so as to offer his Master's Assistance, and Troops in case *France* has occasion for them. I am apt to think that the King of *Portugal* may be playing a double Game, and it is odd enough to see the Actions of some of the foreign Ministers here, who seem to be for a War, only with design to make better Terms for their Masters with *France*. I saw in a Letter from *Spain*, which came from good hands, that on the fifth the Regents had sent an Express to *France* upon advice, that they had received from Don *Francesco de Quiros*, that *Holland* was resolved to make War, &c. That they thought it absolutely necessary that the *French* Troops should march into *Flanders*, and then oblige the *Dutch* to declare what their Intentions were. This is not improbable, but I hope that what I mentioned to you in my last concerning the step which the States had made, will prevent it, and I think I have sufficiently convinced Monsieur *de Torcy*, as from myself, that any proceedings of that nature will infallibly engage us in a War, which I thought was not their Intention. He has always assured me that nothing of this nature will be done, unless they are obliged to it in their own defence. I take notice of this, because it is good to fear the worst. Monsi. *de Boufflers* is not to go to *Brussels*; but there is one gone from hence to the Elector, whose Name I have forgot, and you must have had notice of it already from thence. Monsieur *d'Avaux* sets out in a day or two. Some think that the reason why he did not set out sooner, was, that they expected an Express from *Flanders*. The Constable of *Castille* has this Day a private Audience of the King. They give here to the Officers for the making of the Levies a hundred and twenty-five Crowns for each Man, and yet several have refused to undertake it at that rate, it not being sufficient; which shews that they are not like to be compleated very soon. They talk of buying a great many Horses in *Spain*. There are of late no Persons come from *England* to *St. Germans*, and all things are quiet there. I suppose that as soon as the Parliament meets, we shall hear of them again. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON, by the same Post.

S I R,

I Have just this Moment received Letters from *Spain*, and by the inclosed you will see how Matters stand there. It happened, as I did always imagine, that they would take no Resolution, but follow what comes from hence. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, February 2. 1701.

THE Advices which came from *Spain*, that Orders were given not to suffer any *English* or *Dutch* Ship in any of their Ports, did a little surprize me, after all the Assurances they seem here to be ready to give; so that I took notice of it to Monsieur *de Torcy*, tho' not as if the Orders came from hence. He absolutely denied knowing any thing of it, and consequently said he did not believe it, and took a Memorandum to write to Monf. *de Harcourt*. I am nevertheless of opinion, that it is true. They would now conceal it, till they see what effect the Negotiation in *Holland* will produce: But I cannot understand why Monsieur *d'Avaux* delays going. He is not to set out till Saturday, tho' he has taken leave: this makes me still fear what I have already acquainted you with, that there is something doing in *Flanders*, in order to march to the Frontiers of *Holland* in a few days, and so consequently cut off the *Dutch* Forces there. I cannot but think that the States must have had notice that this is to be feared, and I have now more reason to think so than ever. I endeavoured to know what Advices Monf. *de Tallard* gave: but Monf. *de Torcy* turned the Discourse, and said, that he had not any Letters from him of late. It is true, we want the Post of Thursday last. There is no doubt but he writes, that we are disposing all things for a War; and by the Preparations they make here, it seems as if they thought it unavoidable. If they perceive the Parliament cool and indifferent, they will do what they please; but it is to be hoped it will fall out otherwise, and that they will leave it intirely to His Majesty, who may, as he has hitherto done, still prevent the Danger that seems to threaten all *Europe*. They are now raising here fifty-four Battalions, which they call Militia, tho' in effect they will be regular Troops. They are computed to be thirty thousand Men. Every Parish is to raise some Men, and then they are to be clothed and paid by the King, and the Reformed Officers are to command them. I find they are not satisfied with the Duke of *Savoy*, but the Troops are to march thorough his Country nevertheless. The *French* Ambassador there has sent the Picture of the Princess to this King, which is done, as I suppose, to give the Duke of *Savoy* some hopes that a Marriage may be at last concluded.

My Express is not yet returned from *Madrid*, which I believe is occasioned by Mr. *Aglionby's* arrival. When he does come, I will dispatch him immediately for *England*. What you mention about the Queen of *Spain*, is certain, and she has desired the Protection of the King of *France*. The *Spaniards* have treated her extremely ill, and she will be obliged to leave *Madrid* before the King arrives. I am told that the *Venetians* will endeavour to be Neuter. They will place their own Troops in all their Garrisons, and not oppose either the *French* or *Germans* passing. Count *Zinzendorf* assures me, that the Emperor has concluded a Treaty with *Denmark* for those Regiments that are in *Saxony*, and that the King of *Denmark* is to assist him with Ships, if there be occasion, and intirely desist from opposing the Ninth Electorate. I do not give much credit to what he says, for I have found him often mistaken.

E e e e

You

You cannot send me any thing that gives me more satisfaction than the News of the Health of His Majesty.

Just as I had ended this Letter, I received, by an Express, your's of the 16th. I am sorry I had it not yesterday when I went to *Versailles*, that I might have endeavoured to know what Monsieur *d'Avaux* is first to insist upon in *Holland*. I was afraid to enter too far into that matter, because I had no Orders. You will see by my Letter of the 26th past, that the Memorial was well received: But as the *Dutch* Ambassador is, nor never will be in a condition to do any thing, so they said little to his Secretary. I will endeavour to be on some certainty in the last Point, relating to the Duke of *Anjou*, and I shall act accordingly. But it is a little unlucky, that the Court goes to *Marly* on Sunday next, to make some stay there; so that I cannot see Monsieur *de Torcy* till next Tuesday come sevensnight, unless I write to desire him to come to *Paris*. I am told, that they wonder that the States do not send some Person hither, tho' it was but an Envoy, considering the condition of Monsieur *Heemskerk*. I should think that Monf. *Vrybergen*, whom you know, would be very proper for that Employment. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The KING of Spain's Letter to the QUEEN DOWAGER of Spain.

Translated out of Spanish.

Madam, my Sister, and Aunt,

THE repeated Assurances which your Majesty has given me of your good Affection, leave me no room to doubt of it. I see nevertheless by the Advices I receive, that some try from many Parts to trouble that good Intelligence which I have always wished to keep with your Majesty, and I shall omit no Diligence to penetrate into the Truth of those Reports: but till I discover the Falseness of them, I believe it will be necessary, for your Majesty's Quiet, that you chuse for your Residence one of those Cities of *Spain* which will be most agreeable to you, out of those that shall be proposed to you from me. I will order that your Majesty shall be treated there with all the Respect and Decency due to so great a Queen, and that the Sums appointed for your Dower, by the Will of the deceased King my Uncle, shall be promptly paid you. I could have wished to have shewn you my good Friendship myself; but I believe it will be more convenient, in the present State of Affairs, to leave to Time, and to my Care, the justifying the Truth in the absence of your Majesty, who will, in the mean time, believe that I am

The Good Brother and Nephew of your Majesty,

*At Tarras, the 10th
of January 1701.*

PHILIP.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 24. 1701. O.S.

YOURS of the 26th *January* arrived here on *Monday* last, and yesterday I received your Letters of the 29th. All of them have been laid before his Majesty, with the Advices from *Madrid*. The King would be very glad that young *Bosselli's* coming over hither should be prevented, since there is nobody will have any thing to do with him here. If his Journey is not to be stopped, it will be fit to have an Account when he designs to come away, and where he is to embark. One would know likewise what Company he brings with him, and what his and their Descriptions are. I am told of one *Audley*, a Gentleman of *Suffolk* or *Essex*, that is going over with Horses and Dogs, which, they say, are intended as a Present for *St. Germain's*. Your Excellency will be pleased to be informed of his Behaviour when he arrives. The King expects to hear from you by the Messenger that went from hence,

as

as also to have an account of what Mr. *Folly* brings, and thereupon you will have further Directions sent you. His Majesty will come to *Kensington* on *Wednesday* next, to continue there.

The *French* Ambassador was with me yesterday, to know what was done upon his two Memorials, which you have already an account of. I told him, that as to the Ship cast away on the *Isle of Wight*, I had writ, by his Majesty's Directions, to the Duke of *Bolton*, who is Vice-Admiral of that Coast; and he has sent me an Answer, That he has given Directions to his Officers to use all Endeavours for saving the Goods for the Use of the Owners. As to *Bolton*, that is committed to *Newgate* for confederating with *Kid*, I told him what Reasons his Majesty had to order his being apprehended, and now he was here, it was probable the Parliament would have something to say to him: But as to his being taken within a *French* Port, his Majesty was not yet informed of that Circumstance; but had ordered me to write to Captain *Leg*, the Commander who took him, which would take up some time for an Answer, since he was in the *West-Indies*. He seemed to press that *Bolton* might be released in the mean time, but that is too early and too difficult a Demand. He made but a short stay with me, and entered into no other Particulars. I don't find that he talks here so much of his going home, as he did at his first coming over. I am, with great respect, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, February 1. 1701.

I Have the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 28 *January*; and in answer to the Contents, assure you we have been all in a great Ferment these three Days, since a Letter received from the States Resident at *Brussels*, that the Duke of *Bavaria's* own Troops were ordered to be removed from that City and Neighbourhood, Quarters being assigned them in *Guelderland*, to make way for the *French* in the Places they were before, where Monsieur *de Puisegur* was arrived, to mark out their Quarters; and by this Day's Letters from *Brussels*, we hear the Marshal *de Boufflers* was expected there the same Night, viz. the 30th of *January*, as supposed to press the Elector to some more positive Declaration as to the present Conjunctures of Affairs; so that it is believed, by these Steps, they will not long continue him in the Government. Upon the former Advices from their Resident, a Deputation was sent from the State by some of their Members to Mons. *le Comte de Briord*, who seeming a little surprized, answered he knew nothing of the matter; but did not wonder the King his Master should prepare for War, as the properest Means to secure a good Peace. I am not certain whether they left a Paper by way of Memorial with the Ambassador, or writ a Letter directly to the King his Master; but be it which it will, the Contents were to the same purpose as the Memorial your Excellency mentions, that was sent hence about sixteen Days ago, relating to a reasonable Security to be offered them particularly, in explication of the general Terms used in that King's Letter to them; alledging the Sincerity of their Intentions to maintain a constant Friendship with his Majesty, as he might see by their not having made the least Preparations for War, either by Sea or Land, since the late Changes in *Christendom*: notwithstanding which, they were mightily surprized to hear of the present Motions in the *Spanish Netherlands*, that look as if designed against them, which they have no ways merited; and therefore renewing again the Assurances of their Resolutions of living in all good Correspondence with his most Christian Majesty, they press he will please to appoint Commissioners to treat with theirs, who shall be ready to enter into Conferences with them immediately, to hear such Propositions as his most Christian Majesty shall think fit to offer them for their Security; which being *Equitables* and *Convenables*, they shall readily accept, desiring nothing more than the Continuance of his Favour and Friendship. This Dispatch was sent away last Night

Night. This Morning the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, the Earl of *Athlone*, and the rest of the General Officers, were sent for to appear in the Assembly of the States, and all others ordered away immediately to their respective Garrisons. It is a very critical Conjunction, and I will be very watchful to inform myself of all that passes, and punctually give your Excellency an Account of all I learn, tho' I fear our Correspondence is not likely to be of any long Continuance. We have had no Letters from *England* in ten Days. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Feb. 5. 1701.

WHAT I acquainted you with in my last, in relation to the Orders you sent me, were only my Thoughts on a sudden: but I have since reflected, and by the Answer which the *Dutch* Ambassador's Secretary received, and by what passed between me and *Monf. de Torcy* on that Subject, I thought it not proper to defer the executing of my Instructions. Accordingly I went yesterday to *Versailles*, and told *Monf. de Torcy*, that as the Court was going to *Marly*, and as therefore I could not see him all next Week, I troubled him now, and came to acquaint him with the Orders I had received, and at the same time to desire him to tell his Majesty,

“ *Que le Roy mon Maistre ayant*
 “ *este informé de la Resolution que*
 “ *les Seigneurs les Etats Generaux*
 “ *ont prises, & qu'ils ont ordonné à*
 “ *leur Ministre en cette Cour de te-*
 “ *moigner à sa Majesté Très-Chrêti-*
 “ *enne leur desir d'entrer en Negoti-*
 “ *ation afin que le repos & la tran-*
 “ *quillite de l'Europe puisse estre con-*
 “ *servée; le Roy mon maistre m'a or-*
 “ *donné aussy de seconder en son Nom*
 “ *la meme Proposition, esperant tous-*
 “ *jours par ce moyen, d'affermir plus*
 “ *que jamais le Repos public.*

That the King my Master, having been informed of the Resolution taken by the States-General, and that they have ordered their Minister at this Court to represent to his most Christian Majesty their desire to enter into a Negotiation, to the end that the Quiet and the Tranquillity of *Europe* may be the better preserved; the King my Master has ordered me also to second this same Proposition in his Name, hoping still, by these Means, to confirm more than ever the publick Quiet.

This I write in *French*, that you may see I kept to my Instructions. *M. de Torcy* received it extremely well, and asked me if I would see the King. I told him that I thought it unnecessary to trouble his Majesty, since I had acquainted him with all I had to say. Thereupon he went to the King, and when he came back, he told me in the Name of his Majesty, that I might assure the King my Master, that the *French* King desired nothing more, and was intirely disposed to enter into any Negotiation that might contribute to a solid and firm Peace, and that *Monf. de Tallard* should receive Orders to declare the same. He mentioned nothing in the least of acknowledging the Duke of *Anjou* first, and I have reason to think that this will not be insisted on, since, if other matters can be agreed, that will follow of course. Besides, they are certainly informed of what has passed at *Madrid*, they having continually Expresses from thence, tho' my Express is not yet returned. I have formerly taken notice to you, that it was very much to be feared that the *French* Troops might march into *Flanders*, &c. but I am now persuaded that the Orders I have received will prevent it for some time, whatever their Intentions were. I am also of opinion, that they will expect that we should make our Demands, since otherwise, as I have found by *Monf. de Torcy*, it is impossible for them to know what we take to be a sufficient Security. It is difficult to say what their real Intentions are, but I am apt to think that they will do what they can to satisfy *England* and *Holland*; especially if the Parliament should seem

to be in earnest. But by all I can learn, it seems not possible to satisfy the Emperor.

Last Night a Courier arrived from the States-General with Letters for me, and also another Resolution of the 29th of *January*. They desire that since their Minister was not in a Condition to act, I would take some Care of their Affairs, and assist him. They have also sent me a Credential Letter to this King, which I am to present in case it be required, or thought necessary. I have inclosed Copies of all these Matters, that I may have His Majesty's Directions, tho' I do not doubt but this is done with His Knowledge and Consent. I think I owe that Respect to the States-General, tho' in effect their Desire is already answered, and *Monf. d'Avaux* is gone for *Holland*. I intend to write this day to *Monf. de Torcy*, and I shall mention this Matter, tho' there is no doubt but he is already informed, since the same Courier brought Letters from *Monf. de Briord*. I will endeavour to see *Monf. de Torcy* on Sunday next, and then dispatch the Courier back again.

The Envoy of *Denmark* has communicated to me a Paper concerning them and the Duke of *Holstein*, and he did desire that I would send it to *England*. I do not care to meddle in this Matter, but I could not refuse taking it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Monsieur DE TORCY.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Feb. 5. 1701.

HAVING yesterday received a Courier from the States-General, who desire me to assist their Minister here, and as he is at present not in a Condition to act; they even give me a power to make the necessary Representations in their Name, about their first Resolution, as also relating to that of the 29th of *January*, of which *M. de Briord* has received the Copy: I desire to have the honour to consult with you about this, and I will come to-morrow Morning to you at what Hour you please. I shall esteem myself very happy, if I can contribute to the Preservation of the Peace, of which I flatter myself you are fully persuaded, as also that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

WILLIAM R.

Instructions for Our Right Trusty, and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor CHARLES Earl of MANCHESTER, Our Ambassador Extraordinary in France. Given at Our Court at Kensington the 16th Day of January 1700. in the Twelfth Year of Our Reign.

WHEREAS the States-General of the United Provinces being pressed to declare themselves, whether they would acknowledge the Duke of *Anjou* for King of *Spain*, have thought fit to come to a previous Resolution, That they ought first to be satisfied how the Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe* shall be preserved, and have accordingly directed their Minister at *Paris* to propose in their Name, that a Negotiation may be set on foot for this purpose; We have likewise thought fit to signify Our Pleasure to you upon this Occasion, That you inform yourself from the *Dutch* Ambassador what Answer is, or shall be given to the said Proposal; and if it be such as shews an Inclination in that Court to comply with the same, you are then to second the said Proposal in Our Name: but in case no direct and satisfactory Answer be given, or that you find they are like to insist that the acknowledging the Duke of *Anjou* should precede any such Negotiation, you are then to forbear making any Instances from Us in this Matter, until Our further Order.

By His Majesty's Command,

F f f f

JA. VERNON.

Extract

Extract out of the Register of the Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses the STATES-GENERAL of the United Netherlands.

Translated out of Dutch.

Saturday, January 29. 1701.

IT is, after previous Deliberations, found good, and resolved, that M. *Heemskerk*, their High and Mightinesses Extraordinary Ambassador at the Court of the King of *France*, shall be wrote to, that their High and Mightinesses have seen by his Letter of the 24th of this current Month, that he had only on the Day before received their High and Mightinesses Resolution of the 15th of the said Month, that he would compose a Memorial, containing all the Contents of it, and cause it to be delivered the next day, by his Secretary, by reason of his Indisposition; that tho' consequently their High and Mightinesses could not, by reason of the shortness of time, have received any Answer to it, and whilst they firmly believe, that as their High and Mightinesses had shewn sincerely by this, that they, by their Inclination, as well as their Interest, are entirely bent on the Conservation of the Peace, and the common Quiet, and that they desire nothing more but that these, together with a reasonable Security for their State, be established, offering to enter into Conferences and Negotiations about the means which might tend to this, with the Count of *Briord* Extraordinary Ambassador of his above-mentioned Majesty, or with whom his said Majesty will be pleased to authorise for this; whilst his Majesty has caused to be certified to their High and Mightinesses that he is inclined to content their High and Mightinesses in those Points, that also his said Majesty will be fully persuaded of the Sincerity of the Intention of their High and Mightinesses in that Regard: That their High and Mightinesses understand, with great Grief, that in many places, and also in *France*, it is rumoured about, as if their High and Mightinesses desired War, to give by such Reports, if it was possible, an ill Impression of their High and Mightinesses Intentions; that their High and Mightinesses have the Satisfaction, that they have not given the least Reasons for such Reports by their Conduct, and that they are well persuaded that his abovesaid Majesty will give no credit to them: That they nevertheless, to obviate such Reports, and to make them vanish, and on the contrary to make appear the Uprightness of their Intentions, in over-abundance, have been willing once more to declare, that they have nothing more at heart than the Conservation of Peace and the common Quiet; and that they wish nothing more but that these, together with a reasonable Security for their State, may be established; that the Negotiations about the Means that may tend to this, may have their Proceedings; that their High and Mightinesses judge these proposed Proceedings to be the more necessary, because they hear as if the Troops of his abovesaid Majesty were beginning to move to the nearest Frontiers; that the Generals and other high Officers of his Majesty came down, and other Preparations for War were making; that their High and Mightinesses therefore, to establish the more the mutual Confidence, and the good Intelligence, judge that nothing would be more efficacious than the Progress of the said Conferences; and that their High and Mightinesses testify again, that they will in this, and on all other Occasions, shew the Uprightness of their Intentions, solely proposed for the Conservation of the Peace, and the Advancement of their Security, and at the same time to preserve, by all possible means, the Honour of his Majesty's Friendship.

That he the Lord of *Heemskerk* shall in the best and properest Manner represent what is mentioned to his abovesaid Majesty, in the name of their High and Mightinesses, and write back to their High and Mightinesses what he shall have done therein. And an Extract of this Resolution of their High and Mightinesses

Mightinesses shall by the Agent *Rosenboom* be given into the Hands of the Count of *Briord*, to serve where it may be necessary.

Agreed with the above Register,

F. FAGEL.

The Credential Letter from the STATES-GENERAL to the French King for the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

THE Sickness with which M. *Van Heemskerck* Our Ambassador Extraordinary to your Majesty is attacked, has made Us desire the Earl of *Manchester*, Ambassador Extraordinary of the King of *Great Britain*, to make in Our Name, and in Our Behalf, those Representations to your Majesty, which We had ordered M. *Van Heemskerck* to make, in case he had been in a Condition to act. We pray your Majesty to have an entire Faith and Belief in all that the said Earl of *Manchester* shall have the honour to say, and to represent to your Majesty on Our Behalf, and to be always fully persuaded, that nothing is so dear to Us as the Friendship and the Good-will of your Majesty towards our Republick, and that We shall always endeavour to preserve it, by all our possible Endeavours. For the rest, &c. Sir.

Hague, January 31. 1701.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 27. 1701. O. S.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 2d of *February* arrived this Noon, and I immediately dispatched it to *Hampton-Court*, from whence I came in the Morning. You will see by my last, that I live in a great Correspondence with the *French* Ambassador, knowing so little of his Design to leave us. The next day I heard he had been with Sir *Charles Cotterel*, to desire the King would appoint him a time for his Audience of Leave. His Majesty has ordered it on this day sevensnight. I have already told you, that His Majesty comes to *Kensington* on Wednesday next. I don't know whether the Ambassador will be going for *France* as soon as his Audience is over. Some think he will do in that, as Affairs stand.

It is pretty unlucky, that the Messenger should not arrive 'till the *Marly* Journey was appointed. The Meeting of the Parliament draws on, and therefore one would be glad to know, as soon as may be, what we have to trust to. I have an account this day from *Dover*, that part of the Garrison of *Dunkirk* have lately marched out, and taken possession of *Nieuport*. If it be so, I suppose the Precedent will be followed, and they will possess themselves of what other Towns of *Flanders* they think for their Convenience.

I have a Letter to-day from Monf. *Schonenberg* of the 12th of *January*, with a Packet for the King. It is of the same Substance with what he writ to your Excellency of the 13th, that he should send back your Courier in three or four Days. One may expect now to hear of his Arrival. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Letter to Mr. Secretary HEDGES.

Hamburg, Feb. 8. 1701.

THE short turn I have made hither may, I hope, prove not altogether useless in respect of His Majesty's Service. I presented the King my Master's Letter to the Duke of *Holstein*, who received it with great Expressions of Civility and Gratitude for all His Majesty's Goodness to him, assuring me of a constant Deference which his Highness retains for His Majesty in all things,

things, with a Disposition of continuing firm to the publick Good and Interest of *Europe*.

I find the *Holstein* Affairs begin to be embroil'd again in earnest, unless some Expedients, proposed by the Ministers of the Princes chiefly concerned in the late Peace of *Travendale*, can be hearkned to. The Duke is pleased to promise me, that nothing shall be precipitated on his side, and I have preached the same Moderation to Monf. *Lenthe*, the *Danish* Plenipotentiary at this Place, to observe religiously the Peace of so fresh a date; but I am satisfied the Court of *Denmark* waits only for an Opportunity to be revenged on the House of *Gottorf*, and tempts the Courts of *Zell* and *Hanover* to abandon their Engagements with the Duke of *Holstein*, upon which Condition *Denmark* will sacrifice the Branch of *Wolfenbuttel* to their Discretion. But both the Elector and the Duke of *Zell* are too wise to fall into such false Measures. The Crown of *Sweden* is what is chiefly thought worth Consideration, and in the present Conjuncture deserves Reflection; that Country affording plenty of Men in case of War, which are no where else to be found. I doubt not but Mr. *Robinson* (whose Probity and Capacity are well known) informs His Majesty better than I can pretend to do in any thing relating to *Sweden*: but I understand from the Duke of *Holstein* himself, that the *French* Ambassador leaves no Stone unturn'd to gain his Point in the *Swedish* Court, if it be practicable to embark both the Northern Kings in the same bottom, for the publick Good it is highly to be wished, but at least (with submission) I think we should endeavour to secure the strongest in our Interest. *Sweden* being once hearty, can bridle *Denmark* from doing its usual Mischief in this Neighbourhood; and furnish sufficient numbers of Men to serve elsewhere, *Germany* being grown thin of People; and if *Denmark* be once stripp'd of its present Army, it loses its All.

The *Swedish* Expedition into *Saxony* is still pushed forward by several Persons, especially by Baron *Weling*. Formerly I have opposed that Design, by His Majesty's Order, to prevent Troubles in the Empire, and I must intreat your Honour to instruct me upon this Point, as soon as may be, in case there be any Change, as to that Matter, in the King our Master's Opinion. The Project is to have *Zell* and *Hanover* go halves in the forementioned *Swedish* Expedition into *Saxony*. I cannot yet perceive they are inclined to it, but do believe neither the Elector nor Duke of *Zell* will enter into any thing of so important a nature, without his Majesty's Knowledge.

Baron *Goertz* of *Hanver* has followed me hither, and is just this Moment arrived. He was Governour to the Duke of *Holstein* in his Travels, and has still great Credit with that Prince; all which he is ordered to employ, for the calming of what may raise a Storm in these Parts.

I am sounding Baron *Weling*, (who is yet very *French*) and who labours hard to thrust himself into the House of the Duke of *Holstein* *Gottorf*, in working out the present Ministry, but without Success. His Brother-in-law Lieutenant-General *Baniers* is of a different Character, still the same Man of Honour, and well intentioned.

I shall only stay a day or two here, to do all I can for the publick Service in this Conjuncture, and then hasten back to my Posts in the Courts of *Lunenburg*. I am, &c.

P. S. Just as I am closing this Paper, Baron *Goertz* tells me, that Monsieur *Schutz* can shew his Majesty the fine Project of Duke *Antony* of *Wolfenbuttel*, for a Neutrality in the Empire, with relation to the *Spanish* Succession, as I have formerly mentioned to your Honour.

My Lord,

Your Excellency will see by the Copy of my Letter on the other side of this Paper, that I have been hurried hither for his Majesty's Service for a few Days, and am posting back to the Courts of *Zell* and *Hanover*. I return
your

your Excellency my Acknowledgments for your Favour of *January* 28. received here ; and always am, with very great Respect, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Feb. 9. 1701.

I Hope you have received my Letter of the fifth, with the Copies of the States-General's Letter to me, their Resolution of the twenty-ninth past, and their Credential Letter to the King. You will now see, by the Copy of my Answer, the Steps I have taken, and that the King of *France* does approve of my delivering the Credential Letter of the States, which I shall notwithstanding defer doing, till I have his Majesty's Directions, which I hope you will let me have as soon as you can. I must confess, that after all these Proceedings, I am surprized to hear that the *French* have made themselves Masters of all those Places in *Flanders*, where the *Dutch* Troops were. A Courier is arrived from *Luxemburg*, with Advice, that *Monf. Albergotti*, who, as I acquainted you formerly, was gone to draw a Body of *French* Troops together towards *Thionville*, has possessed himself of *Luxemburg*, as others have done of *Charleroy*, *Namur*, *Mons*, *Audenarde*, and *Nieuport*. Of these two last we have no certain Account yet. It is said also here, that the *French* have disarmed the *Dutch* Troops. I did always fear and believe that this was their Intention, tho' they did endeavour to persuade me of the contrary, as they did all the rest of the publick Ministers. I was the more willing to execute the Orders of the States, hoping to have prevented this Proceeding ; and I mentioned it to *Monf. de Torcy* but *Sunday* last, and said that there was such a Discourse. He answered, that there would be no Act of Hostility done. I told him, that I supposed that they would reckon the possessing themselves of the *Spanish* Towns would be none ; but that I left him to judge, whether such an Action was likely to produce a good Understanding, especially since there did appear so good a Disposition of all sides for Peace : but he made me no answer. I cannot see that any good can be expected from hence. The *Spaniards* that are here begin already to talk publicly of yielding up *Flanders* to the *French* for the *Roussillon* ; which we shall certainly see done at last, tho' at present they will leave the *Spanish* Governors, with a *French* Officer, who will, in effect, have the Command. Here is a Courier arrived from *Spain*, with the News of the Fleet's being arrived from the *Indies* with twenty Millions of Crowns on board, and that the Galleons are expected in *March*.

I keep the Messenger here till I hear from *Monf. Schonenberg*, my Servant being not yet come. The reason why *Monf. de Tallard* does not talk so much of going, is, that it may seem as if they are ready to accommodate Affairs ; which is least in their Thoughts now, unless it were after their own manner. I assure you, that I wish myself in *England*.

My Lord *Middleton* was last Week with the Ministers, to know what Part they would have the late King act, and whether they would not assist him with Troops for *Scotland*, &c.

The *French* are preparing to set out Numbers of Privateers, and several private Persons have already subscribed thirty Millions of Livres for that end.

It is confidently said, that there is a Treaty concluded between *France* and *Denmark* ; so that the Duke of *Holstein* may be in danger again.

I have yours of the twenty-fourth of *January* O. S. and I shall endeavour to prevent *Bosselli's* going into *England*. He is still here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

*The Earl of MANCHESTER's Letter to the STATES-GENERAL.**Translated out of French.**High and Mighty Lords,*

HAVING received the Resolution of the 31st of last Month, by which Your High and Mightinesses have been pleased to refer to me the Care of your Affairs during the Indisposition of *Monf. de Heemskerk*, and the Credential Letter with which you have furnished me for that end; I judged that I ought to thank you most humbly for this Honour, and to let your High and Mightinesses know how sensible I am of their Confidence in my Person.

I accept it, my Lords, the more willingly, because the Alliance of *England* with *Holland*, and the strict Union betwixt the King my Master and your High and Mightinesses, remove from me all Scruples of an Engagement to serve two Sovereigns at once, and because I doubt not but his Majesty will approve of my proceeding. It is also on this Foundation, that I thought presently of executing the Orders of your High and Mightinesses, contained in your Resolutions of the twenty-ninth of last Month.

I began, nevertheless, with informing myself exactly of the Health of *Monsieur* the Ambassador; but on one side finding him, to my great grief, very weak, and not in a Condition to act; and on the other, the Eagerness of your High and Mightinesses to make a new Representation to this Court of your sincere Intentions for the Conservation of the Peace; I did presently send to *Versailles* a Letter to *Monsieur* the Marquis of *Torcy*, to know when I could speak with him upon this Subject. That Minister having appointed me for Nine of the Clock yesterday Morning, I went thither with *Mr. Vroesen*, Secretary of your Ambassador, whom I design to employ in the Affairs that regard your High and Mightinesses, as being very capable. I explained to *Monf. de Torcy* at this Interview, the Orders of your High and Mightinesses. I gave him the Memorial hereunto annexed, and a Copy of the Credential Letter, by virtue of which I acted. His Excellency went immediately to Council to report this to the King, and to let me have an Answer from his Majesty. Coming from thence, he told me what your High and Mightinesses will be pleased to see by the Paper hereunto annexed. You will find there that I cannot give the Credential Letter to his above-said Majesty, till after the Court's return from *Marly*, and in that Interval of Time I hope to have the Approbation of the King my Master.

For the rest, my Lords, I shall always think myself much honoured by your Orders, and very happy to be able to contribute, by my Services, to the Prosperity of the Republick. I am, with all imaginable Veneration, &c.

MANCHESTER.

*The Earl of MANCHESTER's Memorial.**Translated out of French.*

S I R E,

THE Earl of *Manchester*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his *Britannick* Majesty, being desired by the Lords the States-General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, to take care of their Affairs during the Indisposition of *Monf. de Heemskerk* their Ambassador, represents most humbly to your Majesty, in consequence of his Credential Letter, That their High and Mightinesses having not yet received any Answer to the Memorial, which the Secretary of their Ambassador must have presented on the twenty-fifth of the last Month, according to their Resolution of the fifteenth foregoing; the time having been too short for this, they are nevertheless in a full confidence, that as they have shewn sincerely by the same Resolution that they are entirely

entirely bent, as well by Inclination as by Interest, to the preservation of the Peace and the general Quiet, and that they desire nothing more ardently than the preservation of the said Peace and general Quiet, with the establishment of an equitable Security for their State: And that they have offered themselves to enter into Conferences and a Negotiation on the means that might be found for this effect with the Count of *Briord*, Extraordinary Ambassador of your Majesty, or with whom your Majesty shall authorize for this, whilst your Majesty has let them know that your Intention was to content their High Mightinesses in these Points; so that your Majesty may be entirely persuaded of the sincerity of their Intentions on this subject. That in the mean while their High and Mightinesses hear with extreme displeasure, that in many places, and even in *France*, Reports are spread, as if their High and Mightinesses were desirous of War, to give by these means, if it was possible, ill and false impressions of the Intentions of their High and Mightinesses; That tho' they are assured that they have not given by their Conduct the least occasion of such *Reports*, and tho' they are fully persuaded that your Majesty will not give faith to it, that nevertheless to obviate them, and to make them vanish, and to shew the more the Sincerity of their Intentions, their High and Mightinesses were willing to declare over and above what was necessary once more, that they have nothing so much at heart as the preservation of the Peace and the publick Quiet: That they wish nothing more ardently than the maintenance of that Peace and publick Quiet, with the settlement of an equitable Security for their State; and that the proposed Negotiation may be begun *as soon as possible*, to find out convenient Means to obtain this End. That their High and Mightinesses judge this Negotiation to be the more necessary, whilst they learn as if the Troops of your Majesty began to move on the Frontiers the nearest to those of the State, that some Generals and other Officers will come there also; and that other Preparations for War will be made there: That for these Reasons, to confirm more and more the good Intelligence and the mutual Confidence, nothing would be more efficacious, according to the Sentiments of their High and Mightinesses, than the beginning the said Negotiation: And that their High and Mightinesses declare again, that in this, as on all other occasions, they will shew the Sincerity of their Intentions, solely tending to preserve the Peace, and to procure their Security, and to preserve to themselves the Affection with which your Majesty honours them.

Versailles, the 6th of February, 1701.

The Answer which Monsieur DE TORCY gave the same Day to my Lord MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

THAT having read in Council the Copy of the Credential Letter of the Lords the States-General for my Lord the Ambassador of *England*, the King had intirely approved of it; and that after the Journey to *Marly*, his Excellency might come to *Versailles* to deliver it into the hands of His Majesty: But that, the said Lords the States having charged the Lord Ambassador above mentioned with the Care of their Affairs, his Majesty would be very glad, if their High and Mightinesses gave him also all the necessary Instructions.

That in regard to their new Memorial, his Majesty was rejoiced at their good Disposition for Peace; and to cause His good *Disposition* to be seen, he had already ordered the Count *d'Avaux* to set out for *Holland*, as his said Majesty had promised to do, to Mr. *Vroesen*, Secretary of Monsieur *de Heemskerk*, upon the first Memorial of the 25th of last Month; which may be seen by the Letter of the said Secretary to Monsieur the Greffier of their High and Mightinesses of the 28th following.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R

Paris, February 11. 1701.

I Am told by the Count *de Harrach*, who is just now arrived, and goes away again in a day or two, that Mr. *Jolly*, my Servant, whom Monsieur *Schonenberg* had dispatched, is drowned in crossing a River in *Navarre*, the Waters being very much out, and that his Body was taken up with the Letters, which were sent to the Viceroy there. I have also the same Advices by an *English* Merchant at *Bayonne*. The Viceroy had opened the Letters, and sent them to the Regents. The Packet for me was sewed up in his Coat. I do not believe that Monsieur *Schonenberg* had a Cypher, and in all likelihood there were Matters of consequence. Count *Harrach* gave notice to Monsieur *Schonenberg* from *Bayonne*, that the Courier was drowned, and, by the manner he sent it, he does not doubt but it came safe to his hands, tho' he thinks it will be difficult for him to dispatch another Express, and even this Man he sent away privately upon Mules; so one may easily judge that nothing can pass there but by the *French* King's Directions. I hope he has sent also by the *Groïne*.

I have already acquainted you of what has passed in *Flanders*, and by the inclosed Paper, you will see the Officers who are to command in those parts; and that there is no doubt but their Intentions here are for War, whatever they pretend, or at least to oblige us to a Peace on their own terms, till they shall have settled matters a little, and then we shall hear of them. I am apt to think yet, that they will give a plausible Turn to what they have done, and will seem to be willing to let the *Dutch* Troops retire, tho' they never intended it. I am told that they have laid an Embargo on the Fleet that is come from the *Indies*, in order to have that Silver in their power when they please. In short, I cannot see but by a Peace we are undone, tho' a War has also its difficulties. The Letters from *Spain* by the ordinary Post are not yet arrived. As soon as they come, and bring any thing of consequence, I will send back the Messenger.

I cannot tell but upon the first Vote of the House of Commons, Monsieur *Tallard* will have Orders to return, and I hope to have the same, at least before he comes away: for it is ill being in their power, and I cannot see what good I can do here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, February 11. 1701.

I Suppose the Proceedings in *Flanders* must have put all under a great Consternation where you are, and I think with great reason. I am apt to think the *French* will give a plausible Turn to it, and seem to be ready to let the *Dutch* Troops retire; tho' that cannot possibly be imagined, unless the States do agree to whatever the *French* please. It is said, that in *Spain* they have seized the Fleet that is arrived from the *Indies* with near twenty Millions of Crowns. These things do not look like a Peace, and you will see what Monsieur *d'Avaux* says to all this. How our Parliament will like it, is the grand Question. In short, it is high time to take care of ourselves.

I have had a great Misfortune. My Gentleman of the Horse, whom I dispatched some time ago to Monsieur *Schonenberg*, was drowned in his Return, the Waters being extremely out. His Body was found with a Packet for me, one for Monsieur *Heemskerk*, and another for the *Portugal* Envoy here. These Packets were sent to the Viceroy of *Navarre*, who immediately dispatched a Courier with them to the Regents at *Madrid*. I fear there were Matters of Consequence in them. The Count *de Harrach* is arrived here,

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in his way to *Vienna*, and he told me this, tho' I have it also from other hands. I have no Letters yet from Monsieur *Schonenberg*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 30. 1701. O.S.

THE *French* Mail of Saturday last is not yet arrived, so I have none of your Excellency's Letters to acknowledge.

The States-General having acquainted his Majesty, that upon the occasion of their Ambassador's Sickness, they had desired your Excellency's Assistance in the Applications they should find it necessary to make to that Court in the Matters now depending; His Majesty is pleased to direct that you should gratify them therein.

The Possession the *French* Troops have taken both of *Ostend* and *Nieuport*, has given great alarm here, and we don't yet understand by what Orders it was done, nor what is become of the *Dutch* Troops that were there in Garrison.

The King came last Night to *Kensington*, and was at *Whitehall* Chapel this Day. The *French* Ambassador, and the rest of the Foreign Ministers, waited on Him in those Lodgings, after Sermon.

There has been a Report as if the Opening of the Parliament would be deferred some few days, to give the Members time to come up; but I see no reason for it. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

P. S. Mr. *Broughton* writes from *Venice*, that the Ambassador they are sending hither, now says he wants a second Passport for his Goods that go by Sea.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, February 12. 1701.

I Have acquainted you already, by mine of the 11th, of the Misfortune that has happened to my Servant Mr. *Jolly*, who was drowned passing a River in *Navarre*. The Viceroy sent the Letters immediately to the Regents at *Madrid*, and I have not since heard from Monsieur *Schonenberg*, there being no Post yet come from *Spain*.

I am told that as soon as the *French* Troops had possessed themselves of all the Places in the *Netherlands* where the *Dutch* were in garrison, a General did demand, in the Name of the States, of the Elector of *Bavaria*, that their Troops might return home, since he had no more occasion for them. The Elector consented to it, as he could do no otherwise, he being the Person that made the Treaty with the States, in the Name of the late King of *Spain*. Monsieur *Puysegur* dispatched a Courier hither to acquaint this King with it, and to know his pleasure; and in all probability, Orders are already sent thither, there having been a Council held at *Marly*, which lasted some time. It is well if they do not change their Language, and say, they must know first what the Intentions of the States are, and whether they will acknowledge the King of *Spain*; which you will know from *Brussels* sooner than from hence. I shall not see Monsieur *de Torcy* till next Tuesday, and I am willing to keep the Messenger till I hear what he says to me.

You will see by my Letter of the 5th, that I have obeyed your Orders, and Monsieur *de Tallard* was to declare the same: But I find by your's of the 27th past, that he is taking his Leave, which is not a sign he will do it;

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and I expect but little good of the Negotiation. We may be still amused, and suffer for it at last. I have intimated to you what Orders I wish to have, and which I take at this juncture (especially if they retain the *Dutch Troops*) to be for His Majesty's Honour and Service; nevertheless I submit to whatever is His Pleasure.

At *St. Germain's* they do not like our Parliament; but they pretend to have such Assurances, that they do not value it; and say, that however Matters turn, it will be for their Advantage; the Catholick Zeal being sufficient to restore them.

Orders are now given to get fifty-two Men of War ready to be put to Sea, and to augment the Companies of Marines with ten Men each.

I have not yet heard from you how I am to act in relation to the Desire of the States-General.

I have just now received Letters from Monsieur *Schonenberg*. He sent away my Servant on the 18th. He refers me intirely to what he sent by Mr. *Jolly*. It may be that by the inclosed you will have something more. Mr. *Aglionby* was not arrived on the 27th past. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. I had forgot to tell you that Mr. *Schonenberg* sent my Servant by the way of *Navarre*, because he could not get permission for Post-horses, which may have occasion'd this Misfortune.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, February 3. 1701. O. S.

YOUR Excellency's Letters of the 5th and 9th instant, N. S. arrived yesterday in the Afternoon, and I carried them immediately to *Kensington*. His Majesty returned them to me this Morning. This was the first and only Account he had received of the *French* having possessed themselves of the inland Towns in *Flanders*; for we have had no Advices thereof either from *Holland* or *Flanders*, two Mails being due from each; so that His Majesty is still under uncertainty what is become of the *Dutch Troops* that were garrison'd in *Flanders*, whether any stop has been put to their returning home. We have flying Reports, as if the Elector of *Bavaria* was retired from *Brussels*. We expect therefore, but wait with great impatience for the *Dutch* Letters.

I signified to your Excellency by the last Post, that His Majesty would have you assist the Ambassador of the States in the manner they desire it, and His Majesty now commands me to acquaint you, that he approves of what you have done pursuant thereunto. His Majesty expected there would have been a fuller Answer given to the second Resolution of the States presented by you: but he must now look for it from *Holland*, since we are referred to what Monsieur *d'Avaux* shall explain of the Intentions of that Court, which by their late Proceedings do not seem to agree with the Professions made to your Excellency of securing the publick Peace, by a Negotiation.

You have mentioned that Monsieur *Tallard* would have Directions to give His Majesty Assurances to that effect. I was ordered to speak to him about it, which I endeavoured this Afternoon; but he was not at home. He had his Audience of Leave this Morning, in the usual manner. I was near the King's Chair, but could not hear what either of them said. I am told that the Ambassador said no more, in the name of his Master, but that he had recalled him, and sent him Orders to return home. The rest of his Harangue was filled with the Respect he had for His Majesty, and how sensible he was of the Honours done him here. His Majesty, in answer, told him, how well satisfied he was with his Behaviour here, and at his going back, he would report to his Master in what manner His Majesty had been willing to live in Friendship

Friendship and good Intelligence with him. He delivered no Letter, and they say that it is not requisite at taking leave.

I suppose the Sessions of Parliament will begin on Thursday, tho' some expect it will be put off for three or four days, to give the Members a little more time to come up. Sir *Thomas Littleton* was with His Majesty this Morning. His Majesty told him, He thought it would be for his Service that he should give way at this time to Mr. *Harley's* being Speaker; which Sir *Thomas* acquiesced in, and will absent himself from the House the first Day. I wonder Monsieur *Jolly* should be so long coming back from *Spain*. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, February 15. 1701.

I Have been this Day at *Versailles*, the States having sent me the Memorial of Don *Quiros*, as also their Answer, which I do not send you, by reason His Majesty must have it sooner otherwise. The States gave a Copy of it to Monsieur *de Briord*, which Monsieur *de Torcy* has received. I discoursed with him upon that subject; and he assured me, that the King had sent Orders that the *Dutch* Troops might stay, or return into *Holland*, as the States shall please; so that I hope they are already on their March. Whatever *French* or *Walloons* shall be in these Troops, shall have the same Liberty. When I took notice to Monsieur *de Torcy*, that I thought they would have deferred any thing of this nature till they had seen what success Monsieur *d'Avaux* might have had; he owned to me, that they would have done it, had they not had notice that endeavours would be used to procure *Flanders* for the Archduke, and it was necessary to prevent such a proceeding, since the accepting of the Will of the late King was in order to keep the whole Monarchy entire, and the dividing of any part would never be consented to. He also assures me, that the King of *Spain* had sent Orders in relation to the Plate-Fleet, that there should be no stop made, but every one was to have what was due to him there; so that he hoped none can imagine that they have a mind to break with *England* or *Holland*, by their acting in this manner. I have reason to believe that they look on the War as inevitable, since they will not agree to have any Troops in *Flanders*, but what belong to the King of *Spain* or *France*; and whatever disadvantage they may have by a War, they can but be obliged at last to quit *Flanders*, &c. they having by that means always the power of making Peace: But what Security the *Dutch* can have without it, I cannot see; unless renewing of Treaties with *Spain* and *France* be sufficient, which they often declare here they are ready to do, and to engage other Princes in the Guaranty of them.

They talk here much of the Emperor's Answer to the Pope, and that he accepts of his Mediation, on condition that the *French* shall retire out of *Italy*; that *Naples* and *Sicily* shall be put into the Pope's hands; *Milan* and *Flanders* into the hands of some Princes to be named, till the Right is examined, &c. This they will not hear of here, as you may imagine, and they are embarking Forces for *Italy*. Three Regiments of Horse are passed *Savoy*, and others are marching, whether with the Duke's consent or no, I cannot tell, there being a mystery in that matter. There are fifty-five Men of War fitting out, thirty-three Three-Deck Ships, and they are sending twelve of them to the *Indies*. All things look here as if a War was actually declared, and I cannot think it can be long before it is so.

Monsieur *de Tallard's* coming away, is a sign that they expect little good from any Negotiation, as Affairs stand; and none will be named to succeed him at present, as I believe.

I do not know when I shall hear from Monsieur *Schonenberg*; nothing could have happened so unfortunately. This makes me now dispatch the Messenger, and the more by reason of an Information (which you will see inclosed) of one *Butler*, who pretends that he can make out a Design intended against the King, and to take the Persons concerned. He is known to you, and, by his own confession, he has broke prison. It is a little above a year since he left *England*, and he has been about three Months at *St. Germain's*. He came to me on the 13th, and I have since made what enquiry a matter of that nature would admit of, and I have been lately often informed, that some have offered to undertake such Actions, so that this gives me more reason to believe him; and as for the Gun he talks of, others have agreed in that, and it is more to be feared at present than ever. He presses mightily to go for *England*, where he does not doubt but he shall make it out. I told him, I would send him by a Messenger I had here, which he agreed to. I cannot see what ends he can propose in all this, unless the robbing the Messenger, to take his Letters; but care is taken to prevent that. He desires nothing of me, and the expence of sending him is but little, and I have given the Messenger the Money; so that if he comes, you have him in your power; if otherwise, some inquiry may be made whether there be such Persons as *Thomas Moor*, who lived formerly in the *Temple*; *James Salvin*, Master of a Ship, that traded from *Dunkirk* to *England* and *Scotland*, &c. I asked the Name of his Kinsman; he told me, it was *Lowman*, who, I believe, will hardly own him, tho' he may know him. He has had some dealings about Coiners with Mr. *Newton*. I have been informed that one *James Braine*, an Under-Officer in the *Irish* Regiments, did offer to *F. Saunders* to go for *England*, and to get into the King's Stables, as a Groom, and so take his opportunity when the King was a hunting, but it was rejected. In short, there are Villains enough here capable of such an Action, but I do not doubt but care is taken not to let unknown Persons come near the King. I think this a Matter of that Consequence, that one cannot be too credulous, for fear such Designs should be on foot. I have yours of *January 30*, and I shall obey His Majesty's Directions in relation to the States-General. I have not presented their Credential Letter, nor do I intend it, till I have an Answer to what I have acquainted them with. I do not know but the *French* possessing of *Flanders* may have altered our Measures. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Copy of the Information.

THE present Pope having sent King *James* his Picture, with a Present, after his Inauguration, to express his Zeal for his Cause; sent him word, that he should be the first that should receive his fatherly Care: And to let him see that nothing should be wanting to stir up the Catholics to do their utmost to serve him, he sent a plenary Pardon to whatever Person or Persons should by any ways or means work the utter Destruction of the Prince of *Orange*, and his Party. This was told me by Father *Saunders*, a Jesuit, and King *James's* Confessor, who asked me, if I could not invent or devise some way or other to be serviceable in so meritorious a motion. I answered, I had escaped very desperately a late Imprisonment for Life, and hoped he would consider it as a thing impossible for me to be seen in *England*, and not be immediately clapped up; so that before any opportunity could be found, I might be secured, and thus both deprived of doing what was required, and be undone into the bargain. So I was dismissed at that time. A little after this, I was sent for to his Chamber, where he asked me, if I had not a Kinsman that was in a Post, and could be serviceable. He had heard I had one that was in such a place about the Prince of *Orange* as might easily put a Pass in his Plate. As to that I answered, that my Kinsman was

a Man so true to his Trust, that it would be an impossible thing to debauch him. He answered, I did not know what Money and Advancement might do, and if I would propose it to my Relation, he should have what gratification he would demand, and what was very considerable before-hand: but if the thing took effect, he should be promoted to what Place he pleased; and for his Assurance, if he had any Friends in *France* he could trust, he should have what Security he pleased. This being very much urged to me, I answered, it was a thing impossible for me to effect, either with my Friend, or alone; and so was dismissed that time. A little after, one Mr. *More*, a *Yorkshire* Gentleman, who has resided some time at *Dunkirk*, came to *St. Germain's* to King *James*, with Proposals of a Project that might do great service, it being a new-invented Gun, that would execute its charge a hundred and fifty yards off, without any noise, fire or smoak. This Experiment was proved before King *James*, on the North Leads of the Castle of *St. Germain's*, next to the Gardens, one Morning, no body being suffered the while to enter the Garden, and a very small number, not exceeding five, with the King, were upon the Leads, viz. the King, the Duke of *Albemarle*, F. *Saunders*, Mr. *More*, and myself. Mr. *More* being my old Acquaintance, and having been formerly concerned in several Experiments with me, spoke to the King of me, and therefore it was I was admitted. I saw the Gun perform the length of the Leads, which pleased the King so well, that he said, What mischief might not a Man do with such an Engine! Ay, answered *Albemarle*, such a thing as this would do the Prince of *Orange's* business. Says *Saunders*, had we but a Man that had the Bravery to undertake it. Says *More*, An't please your Majesty, I'll get you one that shall effectually do it, naming one *Salvin*, a Kinsman of his. Whereupon *Salvin* was sent for, and he received the Eucharist to perform it the first opportunity, having the assurance of the Pope's plenary Pardon for his Soul, if he should happen to lose his Life in the attempt. So there was joined with him one *White*, an *Irishman*, and two others, *Pritchard* and *Williams*, and Mr. *More's* eldest Son, who is now in *England*, and an Intelligencer to the Court of *St. Germain's*, that being the Person they are to have recourse to when they should arrive in *England*; he being a Man that formerly lived some considerable time at the *Hague*, and having great acquaintance in the Court of *England*, is the Person to find them an opportunity to execute their intended Villany against King *William*, which, I hope, by God's help timely to disappoint. In order to which, so soon as I heard they were arrived at *Dunkirk*, in order to transport themselves, immediately I went to *Paris* to the *English* Ambassador, and gave him this Information, offering withal to surrender myself to be sent to *England*, to do my utmost to prevent the said Design, notwithstanding my present Circumstances, together with my Reception, might seem more safe and easy to me.

WM. BUTTLER. -

A Memorial presented to the STATES-GENERAL, by the SPANISH Ambassador at the Hague.

Translated out of French.

High and Mighty Lords,

THE Underwritten Extraordinary Ambassador of *Spain*, received last Night very late an Express from his Electoral Highness of *Bavaria*, who charges him to inform your Lordships, that his most Christian Majesty has let him know, that having preferred the Will of the late King of *Spain*, *Charles the Second*, to the Execution of the Treaty of Partition, his principal Aim had been to secure the Peace, which was impossible to be preserved in *Europe* by following the measures taken with the King of *England* and your Lord-

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ships;

ships; and that to maintain this, he had hoped that the two Powers having shewn their desire to prevent a War, would also enter into the new Measures which he was obliged to take for the effecting of this: That nevertheless after the acceptance of the Testament, your Lordships had not only deferred to own the King of *Spain*, my Master, in that Quality, but even that you make use of all sorts of means to form, if it was possible, new Leagues against him, as strong as the last in the War which ended by the Peace of *Ryswick*.

That his most Christian Majesty has expected quietly till now that your Lordships would come out of your first Resentment, which was with care inspired into you, and might make suitable Demarches to secure a solid Peace, and a lasting one, such as suits the Interest of your Provinces.

That his most Christian Majesty has forgot nothing to engage your Lordships to make these Demarches; that he had not only given you advice of the Resolution he had taken, before his declaring it, but also, that whilst it was publick, he was willing to inform you by one of his Letters, to which his Ambassador had added the strongest Assurances of his Majesty's Affection for your Lordships, of the desire he had to maintain the Union established by the last Treaty of Peace, confirmed afterwards by those of an Alliance; that in short, his Majesty had caused it to be insinuated to you, that he was disposed to enter into new Tyes of Friendship: That it was asked in his name of your Lordships, what Assurances you desired for the future, promising to give them to you, provided they were just and reasonable; that if your Lordships feared that he would introduce his Troops in the *Spanish* Places, he engaged himself never to let them enter into them, and that he would be contented that the care of them should be entrusted with the *Spanish* Troops, who alone have a right to keep them for the King my Master, who at the same time gave notice to your Lordships of his Accession to the Crown, by a Letter, which I delivered myself to Mr. *de Lier*, then President of the Week.

That so many Advances made with the sole view of Peace have been useless; that the Power of his most Christian Majesty, known on all parts, was to hinder that these Advances were not to be attributed to the embarrassments about the supporting a new War; and that if one could doubt of the Strength, and the Moderation of his most Christian Majesty, it was easily to be believed by the Conduct he has held, that he fears War; and that your Lordships, on the contrary, look upon it as your Advantage, whilst very far from answering to the Advances made by his most Christian Majesty, your Lordships did not cease to negotiate with foreign Courts: That nothing is talked of in *Holland* but Preparations for War, to arm Ships, to keep considerable Sums of Money ready, to augment the Troops; that the Officers of those which your Lordships have in the Catholick *Low-Countries*, raise actually their Recruits, as well in the Towns as in the Countries belonging to the King my Master; That, in short, every thing seems to be in motion here; that all things here seem disposed for War, at the same time that the Emperor causes his Troops to march as well for *Italy* as for the *Rhine*; which he would in all likelihood not do, if he was not assured that your Lordships would support his Interests, by making a diversion in the Catholick *Low-Countries*, by supporting the Pretensions of the Emperor on some of the Places of that Country, and by helping some other Princes also to cease them: which might have happened, if his most Christian Majesty had not immediately used his Precautions so necessary for the Security of the *Spanish Low-Countries*, especially in the condition they are in at present, whilst the Troops which your Lordships have in the places are very much superior to those of the King my Master. That his most Christian Majesty did very well know at first the importance of making the *Dutch* Troops quit them, but being persuaded that your Lordships desired Peace, he thought till now that the publick Good required that he should suspend it; but that at last it was no longer possible to leave those Troops in the Places of a King whom they did not own; and that

that besides this, his most Christian Majesty having been desired by the King my Master to take care of the Security and Conservation of the Places of the *Netherlands*, till he arrives at *Madrid*, and till he be in a condition to do it himself; his said most Christian Majesty thought that it was not prudent to defer any longer to guard them from the danger which threatned them. So he found it necessary to write to his Electoral Highness of *Bavaria*, to let a Detachment of his Troops march on the 6th of this Month into all the principal Places, charging very particularly his said Electoral Highness to order the Governors of the Places, in which these Troops are to enter, that the moment they shall enter, they are to give notice to the Troops of your Lordships not to be at all uneasy at it, whilst the *French* Troops enter only as Auxiliary Troops, and to support those of the King my Master, who had every thing to fear from a Body of Troops very much superior to his own in the Places whereof they will not own him to be the Sovereign: That in short, the *French* Troops were under the Command of his Electoral Highness like them, and that they would do service jointly; and that they had orders to live with the Troops of your Lordships with all the Union and Civility that could be desired, and which no doubt they will execute according to the Obedience and Discipline under which they are used to live.

These, my Lords, are the Motives and the Reasons which his most Christian Majesty has had to cause his Troops to enter into the Places of the King my Master, and which I have Orders to communicate to you; assuring you nevertheless, that their Majesties are still in the same disposition to entertain the good Correspondence and Friendship with your Lordships, and to enter for that end into all the just and reasonable Expedients, as if the Troops of *France* had not entered into the Places of the *Spanish Netherlands*.

*Given at the Hague, the
7th of February. 1701.*

Signed, Don FRANCISCO BERNARDO DE QUIROS.

A Letter from the STATES-GENERAL to the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

SINCE we have communicated to your Excellency the Resolutions of the 15th and 29th of *January* last past, relating to the present Con-junctures, Monsieur *de Quiros*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *Spain*, presented to us the day before yesterday, the Memorial hereunto annexed, to which we are resolved to give the Answer contained in our Resolution, likewise hereunto annexed. We were willing to communicate to your Excellency the one and the other, that you may be informed of what passes here: and as we order Monsieur *Heemskerk*, our Ambassador, to make use of the Contents of our Resolution, to shew the Regularity of our Conduct, and the Sincerity of our Intentions, and to dissipate all that is said against it; We pray your Excellency to do as much when you shall think it convenient.

*Given at the Hague, the
9th of February, 1701.*

*Your Excellency's most affectionate to do you Service,
the STATES-GENERAL of the United Pro-
vinces of the Netherlands.*

This Letter was signed, D. VAN ELS, &c.

By their Order, F. FAGEL.

Extrait

*Extract of the Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses,
the STATES-GENERAL of the United Netherlands.*

Translated out of Dutch.

Wednesday, February 9, 1701.

HAVING heard the Report of Messieurs *Van Essen* and others the Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for foreign Affairs, who having in conformity, and to execute their Commissorial Resolutions of the 7th instant, examined the Memorial of Monsieur *de Quiros*, Extraordinary Ambassador of *Spain*, by which he, in the name of the Elector of *Bavaria*, as Governor of the *Spanish Netherlands*, gives notice to their High and Mightinesses of the Reasons which have moved the King of *France* to send his Troops into the principal Places of the *Spanish Netherlands*, more largely mentioned in the Notes of the day before yesterday: Upon which, after deliberation, it was found good, and resolved, That for Answer be given to the above-named Monsieur *de Quiros* to his said Memorial; That their High and Mightinesses have seen by it, that the sending of the Troops of his Majesty the King of *France* into the Places of the *Netherlands*, is principally founded upon this, that their High and Mightinesses have not fully enough answered the Advances made by his above-said Majesty for the Conservation of the Peace after the Death of the last deceased King of *Spain*; that all sort of Preparations for War were made here; and further, that it seems that umbrage was taken at the remaining of the Troops of this State in the *Spanish Netherlands*, as if this did not suit with the Security of those Places, whilst it is given out that they are the strongest in various places; that their High and Mightinesses have always esteemed it as a great honour and fortune when they have been able to procure and preserve the Friendship and Affection of his Majesty the King of *France*, and having on all occasions given so many proofs of their Inclination for the Conservation of Peace, and the publick Quiet, are very sensibly grieved that it is imputed to them as if they had not sufficiently answered to the Advances of his above-said Majesty, and should have Thoughts of War; That as soon as his said Majesty had given notice to their High and Mightinesses of his Resolution for the acceptance of the Will of the last deceased King of *Spain*, of glorious Memory, their High and Mightinesses communicated it to the Lords the States of the several Provinces, to wait for their Resolutions thereupon, as the Order of the Government requires; that as soon as their High and Mightinesses, according to the Constitution of the Government, were in a condition, to take any Resolutions thereupon, they have testified to their High and Mightinesses their upright Inclination to the preservation of the Peace, and common Repose; and whilst his above-mentioned Majesty, on his part, has often caused to be testified to their High and Mightinesses his Inclination for Peace, and common Quiet, and also to give to their High and Mightinesses a reasonable Security for their State; That their High and Mightinesses were ready to enter into Conferences and Treaties with his Majesty's Ministers here, on the means which might be found necessary for this: That his said Majesty upon this did cause to be testified, by Monsieur the Marquis *de Torcy*, the satisfaction he took in the above-said Resolution of their High and Mightinesses; and that his Majesty to shew his readiness to the finding out of an Accommodation, would by reason of the sickness of the Count *de Briord*, his Extraordinary Ambassador here, send immediately the Count *d'Avaux* hither for that purpose; as the mentioned Count *d'Avaux* is also already on the Road hither, according to the Advices which their High and Mightinesses have from *Paris*: That their High and Mightinesses having certified their Satisfaction which they had conceived therein, they could not understand without grief, that it is ascribed to them as if they had not duly answered to the Advances made by his

his said Majesty towards Peace, and as if they were here inclined to War, and as if therefore all Preparations for War were making; that their High and Mightinesses have been always utterly averse, and are still so, to War, and have never looked on it as an Advantage, as knowing that War is intirely contrary to their Interest; that they therefore wish for nothing more than to see the Peace and common Repose preserved, and their Security established: That their High and Mightinesses have a few days ago caused fresh Assurances of this to be given to his abovesaid Majesty, when they had learned that the said Rumours of Preparations for War in this Country were more and more spread about, to the end that the offered Negotiation might have its success, as the fittest means to make such Rumours, and the ill impressions which are caused by them, cease: That their High and Mightinesses learning, not by uncertain Rumours, but by certain Advices, the great Armaments in *France*, and the motions made on their Frontiers, have very just Reasons to be alarmed at it, and to put themselves in a state of defence; That they have notwithstanding in this proceeded with the utmost Circumspection, and have done less than would have been done by others on the same occasion, to take thus away all reasonable occasions of umbrage: That they are also fully satisfied that nothing is done by them that could give occasion to the foresaid Rumours, or any evil Presumptions; that they do not doubt but they shall shew this fully, together with their Inclination to the preservation of Peace and the common Tranquillity, in the Conferences to be held with his Majesty's Ministers, when the Count *d'Avaux* shall be arrived, whose arrival they long for. That their High and Mightinesses, if they had known that by the remaining of their Troops in the *Spanish Netherlands* any umbrage could have been given, would long ago have removed them; That their High and Mightinesses having had some notice of the said umbrage, and to remove it, had, before the receipt of the before-named Memorial, given Orders to demand the aforesaid Troops back, whilst their High and Mightinesses have sent them, and left them there to serve as a security for those Places, and by no means to give them any uneasiness; that their High and Mightinesses have given notice of this their Intention to the abovesaid Elector of *Bavaria*, to the end that, the sooner the better, Orders may be sent to let them march off. That their High and Mightinesses desire that Monsieur *de Quiros* will second this by his good Offices, that so the Reasons of the umbrage conceived by the remaining of the named Troops may be taken away.

And an Extract of these Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses shall by the Agent *Rosenboom* be put into the hands of the named Monsieur *de Quiros*, to serve as an Answer to the forementioned Memorial.

That further, a Copy of the abovenamed Memorial, and the Extract of these Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses shall be sent to Monsieur *Heemskerk*, their High and Mightinesses Extraordinary Ambassador at the Court of the King of *France*, to shew, where he may think it to be of use, the good Disposition and Intention of their High and Mightinesses, and to dissipate what may be reported against it.

And an Extract of these their High and Mightinesses Resolutions shall by the Agent *Rosenboom* be put into the hands of the Count *de Briord*, to serve wherever it may be fit.

And likewise a Copy of the forenamed Memorial, and the Extract of these their High and Mightinesses Resolutions shall be sent to the Resident *Hulst*, to serve for his Information, and to make use of it where it is convenient.

Finally, Notice shall also be given of this to the Earl of *Manchester*, Extraordinary Ambassador of the King of *Great Britain* at the Court of *France*, for his Information.

D. VAN ELS, &c.

Agreed with the named Register. F. FAGEL.

K k k k

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, February 6. 1701. O. S.

I Received on Tuesday last your Excellency's Letter of the 12th instant, N. S. The Letter you mention to have written the 11th, is not yet come to my hands. The Letter I received has been laid before his Majesty, together with Monf. *Schonenberg's* Letters of the 26th and 27th of *January*, which chiefly refer to this Dispatch of the 18th, that was sent by poor Mr. *Jolly*, whose loss is a great misfortune, if there be nothing else in it. He did not sure ride Post alone, and yet there is no mention of what became of his Guide. One would be glad to know whether Monsieur *Schonenberg* has received his Letters again unopened. It would be an ill treatment, if they are sent back to satisfy other People's Curiosity. I suppose your Excellency is informed of all that Count *Harrach* could tell you, how Mr. *Jolly* came to his end. I know not whether it may not be very fit to make further inquiries about it, from the *Englishmen* that pass'd that way about the same time, if it is known where they now are.

We have had no *Corunna* Mail since the Letter of the 12th, nor are the *Dutch* Posts yet arrived, which his Majesty is most concerned at, not having yet any account either from thence or *Flanders* concerning the *Dutch* Troops; so that all he has heard of that matter is from your Excellency, and they had not yet told you what Resolutions were taken upon Monf. *Puysegur's* Express.

I told you in my last, I was ordered to know of Monsieur *de Tallard* what Directions he had received upon what you had represented in the Name of His Majesty and the States. I saw him next Morning, and he told me he was to give His Majesty the same Assurances in the Name of his Master, that Monsieur *Torcy* had mentioned to your Excellency, and that he would do it that day. Accordingly he went to *Kensington* on Tuesday Noon, and delivered his Message in general Terms as you sent it. His Majesty asked him, if he had any thing in particular to propose relating to the publick Security. He said, he had no Instructions in that matter; but if His Majesty had thought of any thing of that nature, if he pleased to communicate it to him, he would send it to his Master; and His Majesty desired, when he had any thing to offer on this Subject, he would give him notice thereof by me. I hear Monsieur *Tallard* does not think of removing from hence till towards the end of this Month; but talks of making use of his Character in the mean time, as occasion may serve. He says Monsieur *d'Avaux* is charged with no other Orders, but to hear what the States have to propose as to their Security, and to send back an account of it, and then to expect Directions upon it. He says he knows of no obstruction that will be given to the *Dutch* Troops retiring out of *Flanders*, whenever they shall think fit.

The King cannot yet come to any Resolution when your Excellency shall have leave to come over, tho' he will allow it as soon as you can be spared. But now you have a double Trust upon you, and we are in a Conjunction that must soon open itself further. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, February 19. 1701.

I Have yours of the 3d, and I do find that Monsieur *de Tallard* has not taken any notice of what, as they told me here, he should have Orders to do. I think it is easy to see what this means, and by the Preparations they make here, it is easy to judge what we are to expect. The Fund for the Sea-Service was nine Millions of Livres. This is now augmented to twenty-one Millions; and Orders are actually sent for the fitting out eighty Sail of Ships of the Line of Battle, which are to be joined by twenty from *Spain*.

It

It is confidently said, that the Duke of *Savoy* has made a Treaty with *France*, &c. He is to have a hundred thousand Livres a Month for eight thousand Men, which he is obliged to furnish, and to yield to the passage of the Troops. The Marriage of his second Daughter to the King of *Spain* is another Article: But that of his being Generalissimo is not certain. The *Savoy* Ambassador denies knowing any thing of it; but I take it for granted, else it would not be talked of so publickly as it is at *Versailles*: Besides, several Letters from *Spain* mention the same thing. I do not believe that the Elector of *Bavaria* has any thoughts of leaving *Brussels*. I take it, that there is still some mystery in that Affair, which a little time will shew. Monsieur *Puysegur* has shewn this Court how they may maintain twenty thousand Foot and four thousand Horse in *Flanders*, with little more charge than the *Flanders* were formerly obliged to pay; by paying all those Soldiers on the *French* foot, &c. and I am told that they are actually raising that number there. I believe that Mons. *d'Avaux* will declare, that the moment these Troops are raised, the *French* are to return; but at present it looks otherwise, for the Regiment of *Picardy* is marching to *Antwerp*, as others are to *Brussels*, &c.

The discourse of the *French* at Court is, that their King is still for Peace; but what he does, is to shew that they do not fear a War, as being in a condition to maintain it whenever they are attacked. They think the *Dutch* will soon acquiesce, or else their Ruin is certain: but I am far from being of that opinion. I have inclosed a List of the *French* Troops, when compleat, which their Foot will soon be, by their obliging every Parish to furnish a certain number, which is what never was done in the last War; and it is said, when this is over, the same Order will be renewed. In short, if a War was declared, they could do no more than they do. I hope we are taking some care for our own Security, else they may happen to make us a Visit from *St. Germain*, which is the hope they have now. I am told that the *Dutch* Troops were to march out yesterday. Here are strange Reports about what was found in the Packets about Mr. *Jolly*; but I give no credit to them, since I think it impossible to be true. I am impatient till I hear from Monsieur *Schonenberg*. By the relation of the Count *Harrach*, it does seem a perfect Accident, since he says that he was in danger himself; else one might suspect that it was done by Order, which is very common in those parts.

I do not doubt but Monsieur *de Tallard* will make all the haste he can. It is certainly usual for Ambassadors, when they take leave, to present a Letter from their Master: But I suppose that at this juncture it was thought not so convenient.

I have prevented the Son of *Boselli*'s going for *England*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A Copy of the French Ambassador's Memorial to the STATES.

Translated out of French.

THE Most Christian King, who has no other Views, since the signing of the Peace of *Ryswick*, but to maintain the Repose in *Europe*, which that Peace has re-established, has seen, with pleasure, in the three Resolutions of your Lordships, of the 15th and 29th of *January*, and the 9th of the present Month of *February*, that you desire to enter into Conferences and Negotiations, by your Deputies, with the Count of *Briord*, or such other as his Majesty shall be pleased to empower, to confer together on the Preservation of the Peace, and about the Securities which your Lordships may equitably desire: and as the Health of the Count *de Briord* does not permit him to enter into Conferences, his Majesty has commanded the under-written Count *d'Avaux* to go immediately to the *Hague* for that end; which having been performed by the Count *d'Avaux* with all possible diligence, he thought he ought not to lose time to make your Lordships know it, and to deliver you the Creden-

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tial Letter, declaring to you that he is ready to enter into Conferences with the Deputies of your Lordships, and that the King his Master has entrusted him and the Count *de Briord* with the necessary Powers to treat with your Deputies, if you desire to enter into new Engagements for the Preservation of the Peace. He can in the mean while assure them, that the King his Master don't pretend to make use of his Power, nor of his Union with the King of *Spain*, to begin a new War; that he desires, on the contrary, that this Event may serve to maintain the general Peace; and that he is ready to give, on this Subject, all the Assurances that may be reasonably demanded of him.

Hague, February 13. 1701.

The Count d'AVAUX.

Copy of the Credential Letter.

Translated out of French.

Most Dear, Great Friends, Allies and Confederates;

WE have seen, with pleasure, by the Memorial which you gave to the Count *de Briord*, our Extraordinary Ambassador with you, the Desire which you shew to find Means to preserve the general Peace, in the present Conjuncture. Our principal View has always been to maintain it: and as the Sickness of the Count *de Briord* hinders him to confer with you on that Subject, we have chosen the Count *d'Avaux* our Counsellor in Ordinary in our Council of State, Commander, Provost, and Master of the Ceremonies of our Orders, whose Capacity and Sentiments are already known to you, that he may let you know, in the Quality of our Extraordinary Ambassador, how much we wish that nothing may trouble the Publick Quiet. We are persuaded that you will give entire Faith to all that he will tell you on our part; and after having assured you of our Esteem and our Affection for you, We pray God that he keep you, very Great Friends, Allies, and Confederates, in His Holy and Worthy Care. Written at *Versailles*, Febr. 2. 1701.

Your Good Friend, Ally, and Confederate,

Signed *LEWIS.*

And lower, *COLBERT.*

The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Letter to the STATES-GENERAL.

Translated out of French.

High and Mighty Lords,

ON Monday last I had the Honour of receiving your High and Mightinesses Letter of the 9th of this Month, as also your Resolution of the same date, containing the Answer to a Memorial of Don *Bernardo de Quiros* thereunto annexed, to be made use of by me, where I should think it necessary. I went the next day to *Versailles*, to discourse with *M. de Torcy* upon it. That Minister told me that he was already informed of it, by the Copy which your High and Mightinesses were pleased to deliver to the Count *de Briord*, and he told me, that your High and Mightinesses ought not to be surpris'd that the King had possess'd himself of the *Spanish* Places for their new Master. That it was a good while since the Regency had pray'd him to do it: but that not to stir up Animosities, and to remove, as much as it was possible, all Reasons of Mistrust, he had always deferred it. That being at last press'd by Necessity, he was not longer able to resist their pressing Instances; and the less, since he hears from all Parts of nothing but War. That it would not have been prudent to suffer himself to be surpris'd; but that, to give to your High and Mightinesses, and to all the World, strong Marks of the Sincerity of his Intentions, and of his Zeal for Peace, he would in no manner make use of the Advantage he had over your Troops; and that therefore he had already given his Orders to leave them the liberty of staying, or

to retire themselves, as your High and Mightinesses shall think fit, even without inquiring whether there were any *French* or *Walloons* among them.

He added to this, that as to what relates to the *Flotilla* at *Cadiz*, there was no Intention to undertake any thing against it, and that there were likewise Orders given in *Spain* that it should be permitted to those who are interested in them, as it has always been, to withdraw their Effects in all safety without any hindrance. That, on the other hand, his Majesty flattered himself that now, whilst the Count *d'Avaux* is in *Holland*, proper means may be found out to content your High and Mightinesses in regard to your Security.

I answered him, that I had hoped that this Step would have been still deferred, whilst the Intentions were so good on all sides, and that I did not know now what this might produce, but that I had always expected to hear of the Orders which His Majesty had just now given.

I was not willing to hasten the Delivery of the Credential Letter, which your High and Mightinesses were pleased to furnish me with, but I shall not fail doing it on your first Orders; and the more willingly, whilst the King my Master has signified to me his Approbation of it; praying your High and Mightinesses to do me the justice to be persuaded, that I shall be all my Life-time with a profound Veneration, &c.

Paris, February 18. 1701.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 10. 1701. O.S.

I Have none of your Excellency's Letters to acknowledge, the *French* Mail not being yet arrived, tho' the Wind has been very fair for their coming over.

I had a Letter this Morning from *Monf. Schonenberg*, but it was a Duplicate only of that which came last Week under your Cover, dated the 26th of *January*. So that we know nothing yet of what his Dispatch of the 18th contained.

We had two *Dutch* Mails yesterday, but there are two more still due. When the first were writ, they had only an Account in *Holland* that the *French* Troops had put themselves into the same Quarters with the *Dutch*. The next Letters from *Holland* will tell us what *Monf. d'Avaux* is doing there. In the mean time, we hear by Letters of the 15th from *Brussels*, that the King of *France* had signified his Consent to the *Dutch* Troops returning home, but however the Orders had not then been issued for their marching away: but instead thereof, the *French* increased their Troops daily in those Countries, and talk of advancing with a great Force, both Horse and Foot, towards the Frontiers of *Holland*; which is a strange Attendance upon an Ambassador that is to assure them of Peace and Tranquillity.

I just now hear that the King has received advice by an Express, that the *Dutch* Troops are permitted to march out of *Flanders*; but they likewise talk of extraordinary Movements of the *French* Troops in those Parts.

We hear of an *English* Merchantman that is arrived in the West of *England* from *St. Sebastian*, that was drove by stress of Weather towards *Port-Louis*, which put them into a Necessity of going ashore for some Conveniences they wanted, but it was not allowed them. This great Shyness shews they are privately fitting out for the Sea. What therefore you can learn of it, you will let us know.

The King came to the Parliament to-day, but it was only to direct the House of Commons to chuse a Speaker, who is to be presented to-morrow, and then the King will speak to both Houses.

Mr. *Harley* was the first Person proposed for Speaker, and afterwards Sir *Richard Onslow* was named by others; but the Question being put upon the former, he had Two Hundred and Forty-nine Votes for him against One Hundred and Twenty-five in the Negative. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

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To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R

Paris, February 23. 1701.

THEY wait here with great Impatience to know the Resolutions of the Parliament, and by their Proceedings one must judge that they think it will end in a War, since they are preparing, with all diligence, to take the Field; the *French* Troops having possessed themselves of all the Places near *Holland*, and it is said that there will be a Camp formed in those Parts as soon as possible. Here is a Contract making with several Persons to furnish the necessary Provisions in *Flanders*, and towards the *Rhine*.

I have often pressed *Monf. de Torcy* to know the Propositions which *Monf. d'Avaux* would make to the States. He always said that he had none, but that he was to hear what they would propose to him, in relation to their Security. I find that what they would be at here, is the renewing of Treaties; and that the Troops in *Flanders* should be the King of *Spain's* Subjects only, and be paid by him, for which end they are increasing the *Spanish* Troops to Twenty Thousand Foot and Four Thousand Horse, as I already acquainted you; I am of opinion they will consent to no more, at least 'till they see that we are in earnest, and without such Conditions we cannot think our selves safe, and the Hazard of a War cannot be more fatal to us. *Monf. de Torcy* did ask me whether I had any Instructions, or whether I knew what we should think to be a sufficient Security. I told him I could not say any thing to that matter, having no Directions, but that I thought it would come more properly from hence. I have had no Orders from the States-General since the Arrival of *Monf. d'Avaux*, but I suppose I shall have some very soon, and 'till then I defer the presenting their Credential Letter to the King. It may be, that the Negotiations will be soon ended, and there will be no occasion of doing it. I have reason to think that *Monf. de Tallard's* Stay in *England* is calculated to the Progress of *Monf. d'Avaux*; and the Talk is here, that a time will be fixed for the States to acknowledge the King of *Spain*, and if that is not agreed to, both the Ministers are to leave *Holland*.

They have here an Account of the Fall of our Actions, and the Stop of Credit in the City. I hope the occasion of it will soon be over, as the Uncertainty of Affairs contributes much to it. Here is no account, as yet, that the *Dutch* Troops are marched, but it is taken for granted.

I have yours of the 6th. As for my Servant, he had a Guide, who went safe over; he was on a Mule, and I fear he did not know how to guide him, for the Mule got over, and the Body was found a great way from that place, with forty Louis d'Or in his Pocket, and a Silver Watch, which were sent also to the Viceroy. I have given *Monf. Schonenberg* a particular Account of this Matter. To-morrow our Letters from *Spain* may come, so I hope to hear from him.

What I acquainted you with about the Duke of *Savoy* is not actually done, but I am persuaded it will not be long a doing. I hear that the Envoy, who is with you, has Orders to mention something of it to His Majesty. I believe you cannot expect much from Mr. *Aglionby*, by the *French* possessing themselves of *Flanders*.

I hope that the Messenger, whom I dispatched on the 15th, is safely arrived with one with him. If not, I may hear of another Misfortune happened to him.

I suppose I need not doubt but Care is taken to prevent any Surprise on *England*; whatever they pretend, it is certain, that if they had a good Opportunity, they would not lose it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 13. 1701. O.S.

YOUR Letters of the 15th and 19th arrived together on Tuesday last, and have been laid before His Majesty. My Lord Windjor's Servant brought me the same Evening your Letter of the 11th.

I have no Directions to send you upon your Letters. What Negotiations are on foot, are like to be carried on in *Holland*; but I don't hear that either side begins yet to open themselves. I suppose they will not be long in that posture.

The Count *de Tallard* has printed and published the Memorial *M. d' Avaux* carried into *Holland*. It came out both in *English* and *French* three or four days before the *Dutch* Post brought it to the King.

The Man that *Collins* has brought over is a very slippery Spark, and has played all sorts of Pranks here formerly, and I rather expect a new trick from him than any useful Service; but I must do the best with him I can. He knows not where to look for any of the Men he has mentioned, but says he must have time to find them. In the mean time, he wants the Protection of the Government to secure him from returning to *Newgate*, which he was confined to for his insolent Language against the King. He makes great use of your Excellency's having heard before of his strange Gun, and that is the best Foundation he grounds his Credit on. I suppose e'er long, if he discovers nothing else, he will discover himself.

You will receive from the Office the King's Speech. I hope that will be looked upon as a Proof we are in a peaceable Disposition. How long we shall find others so, is more to be suspected. I expect the Speech will be reported to-morrow in our House.

The King is sensible that you are under some Impatience at your staying there, but does not think it can be otherwise at present, and I hope you will find no great Inconvenience in it. I am with great Respect, &c.

JA. VERNON.

The King has had a Fit of an Ague yesterday, but it is well over to-day.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, February 26. 1701.

I Have received a Letter from Mr. *Schonenberg* with the inclosed for you. I find that he had notice from Count *Harrach*, that a Courier with Letters for me was drowned, and that they were sent to the Regents, which he has endeavoured to know the truth of; but that Court would not yet explain itself in the least. This gives him reason to believe that they have them, as it is not to be doubted. He writes me word, that he intends very soon to send Duplicates by the way of the *Groyne*, which I hope will not be long e'er they come to your hands. I have no account of what has passed at *Madrid*, neither does he say any thing of Mr. *Aglionby*: but all the other Letters from thence speak of his being arrived there, with Orders from His Majesty to the Regents.

On Thursday last arrived here a Courier from Monf. *d' Avaux*, and early this Morning goes one from the *Dutch* Ambassador. I send you the Letter of the States-General to me, where you will see that they have acknowledged the King of *Spain*, &c. As for the Letter to the King of *France*, I am not charged with it, and you see the Reason; and that if I had been, I could not have complied in a Matter of this nature 'till I had Directions from His Majesty. Monf. *Heemskerk* is not in a Condition to act, so his Secretary goes to-morrow to present it to Monf. *de Torcy*. I do not send the two Resolutions, by reason His Majesty must have them before now. This Proceeding shews that we are like to have Peace, which causes here an universal Joy. We shall now soon see what Conditions the States will be able to procure in relation

relation to their Security, and the publick Quiet of *Europe*. The Emperor's Minister is much concerned, as you may easily imagine. I hope all things will end well at last. This Proceeding of the *Dutch* will have a great Influence on our Parliament, and I am impatient to hear what their Resolutions are.

I hear that Orders were sent to Mr. *Fitz-James* to go on board his Squadron at *Toulon*. Mr. *Johnston*, who is Brother to the Earl of *Annamdale*, goes with him, and there is some Discourse as if *Trevanian* and *David Floyd* would do so too. Captain *Fenwick*, *Dowdal* an Irish Friar, *William Creagh*, and Mr. *Foscen* of *Ireland*, are come from *England* to *St. Germain* this Week, and are to return in a very short time; as is also one *Cranburn*, the Son of *Cranburn* that was hanged. I will do what I can to know their Business, and the time of their Departure. I should think that all Persons ought to be examined at *Dover*, and their Names should be sent to you, especially if the Information I sent you by the Messenger proves true. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A Letter from the STATES-GENERAL to the Earl of MANCHESTER.
Translated out of French.

My Lord,

WE have seen by the Dispatches of your Excellency, the last whereof, which was of the 18th of this Month, was brought us to-day, the Care you have been willing to take of our Affairs; we thank your Excellency very affectionately for it, and we have thought it necessary to communicate to you the Resolution, which we have taken yesterday, to own the Duke of *Anjou* as King of *Spain*; as also that, which we took to-day, of giving Orders to Monsieur *Heemskerk*, our Ambassador Extraordinary, to present to his most Christian Majesty the Letter which we write to his Majesty upon this Subject, and to make the Compliments, wherever it shall be convenient, or to employ his Secretary in this, in case he was himself hindered by Sickneſs. We would have desired the good Offices of your Excellency on this Occasion, but as this might have embarrassed you, as not knowing the Intentions of your Master in this, we would spare you that Trouble, and inform you nevertheless of what we have resolved. We are,

MY LORD,

Your Excellency's most affectionate to serve you,

The STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*

Hague the 22d of
February 1701.

W. of NASSAU.

By their Order, F. FAGEL.

Extract of the Register of the Resolutions of the High and Mighty
Lords the STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces of the
Netherlands.

Translated out of Dutch.

Monday, February 21. 1701.

HAVING heard the Report of M. *Van Essen* and other Deputies of their High Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, who in consequence of the Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses of the 14th and 17th of this Month, given them in Commission, have examined the two Memorials of the Count *d' Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his most Christian Majesty, in the first of which the said Count *d' Avaux* gives them notice of his Arrival here, and the other desiring that their High Mightinesses may explain themselves, as soon as possible, on the Subject of the Negotiation, to find means by which the general Peace, and their particular Security may be established, as is more amply mentioned in the said Memorials, and the Acts of the

the 14th and 17th of this Month: Upon which, having deliberated, it was found good and agreed, that Answer shall be made to the said Count *d'Avaux* in a Conference upon these Memorials; That as soon as their High and Mightinesses have had the Notification of his Arrival here, they have immediately named their Deputies to enter into Conferences with him: That their High and Mightinesses declare still, as the said Deputies have already done in their Name, in that Conference which was held the Day after, that the Resolution of his most Christian Majesty to send the Count *d'Avaux* hither, and afterwards his Arrival, as well as his Person, have been very pleasing to them; That they hope that their said Deputies have had the good fortune to shew sufficiently, at the first Conference, that they have not given any occasion by their Conduct of the Mistrust which has been had of them, as they have heard to their great grief, and that they have been able to persuade the said Count *d'Avaux* of the Sincerity of the Intentions of their High and Mightinesses for the Preservation of the Peace, and for the keeping up a good Correspondence with his said Majesty. That afterwards, their High and Mightinesses having received the second Memorial, and having seen in it the Assurances, which it has pleased his most Christian Majesty to give them anew, of his sincere Intentions for the Maintenance of the Peace, and to give their High and Mightinesses Satisfaction about their particular Securities; as also, how much it is insisted on, on the part of his said Majesty, that their High and Mightinesses may explain themselves forthwith about what is contained in the said Memorial; they were willing to give immediately a true and real Proof of the Sincerity of their Sentiments for the Peace and the publick Repose. So that having considered, on the one side, that the Negotiation about the Means to preserve the Peace and the general Tranquillity, and their particular Security, might be retarded by unforeseen Accidents, the more whilst it will be fit that it be done with the Intervention of His Majesty of *Great Britain*, as having been concerned in the Treaty of Partition, and other Princes and Potentates interested in the Preservation of the general Peace; and that besides their High and Mightinesses cannot dispense themselves from communicating with His said Majesty of *Great Britain*, by reason of His Concern with their Republick in all important Affairs, that will enter into this Negotiation; and having seen, on the other hand, that his most Christian Majesty interests himself so strongly, in that their High and Mightinesses may own the King of *Spain*; that their High and Mightinesses, to obviate this Desire of his said Majesty, as also to stop the Reports, which are mentioned in the aforesaid Memorial, as if it was their Intention not to own that Prince, but on a certain Condition; they were willing to declare, now immediately, that they will own the Duke of *Anjou* as King of *Spain*, and that they are resolved to keep up with him the same good Neighbourhood, Friendship, and good Understanding, which they have kept up with the late Kings of *Spain*, Predecessors of his Majesty. That after this, their High and Mightinesses are ready to enter with their most Christian and Catholick Majesties, with the Intervention of His Majesty of *Great Britain*, into a further Negotiation, to treat about means that may serve for the Preservation of the general Peace and Tranquillity, and to the Establishment of their particular Security, and that in such a manner, as also with the Intervention of such other Princes and Potentates, which shall be thought useful and necessary, to obtain the End proposed. That thus their High and Mightinesses, by this Declaration, satisfactory to all that has been asked of them, and referring to a Negotiation all that they might have demanded on their side; and having first given, by the recalling of their Troops that are in the *Spanish* Low Countries, and giving now, by the owning the King of *Spain*, so convincing a Proof of their very great Desire to preserve the Peace and the publick Repose, and to live in good Intelligence and Friendship with their most Christian and Catholick Majesties, they believe that they have given satisfaction in all that was asked of them, and that his most Christian Majesty will also recall his Troops out of the *Spanish-Netherlands*,

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lands, whilst those Troops were sent thither, because the Troops of their High and Mightinesses had remained there. And the said Messieurs *Van Essen* and other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, are required to impart this present Resolution to the Count *d'Avaux*.

Extract of the Register of the Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses the STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.

Translated out of Dutch.

Tuesday, February 22. 1701.

HAVING heard the Report of Messieurs *Van Essen* and other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, who, by virtue of the Resolution of their High Mightinesses of yesterday, have been in Conference with the Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his most Christian Majesty, to give him an account of the said Resolution; on which having deliberated, the said Deputies were thanked for the pains they have taken in this Affair, and it has been found good, and resolved to proceed effectively to the Recognition of the Duke of *Anjou* as King of *Spain*, and that a new Answer shall be made to the Letter of his most Christian Majesty of the 29th of *November* last, in which his Majesty has given notice to their High and Mightinesses of the Duke of *Anjou's* Accession to the Crown of *Spain*: that by this Answer his Majesty shall be congratulated on this Event, and assured of the part their High and Mightinesses take in it, as also of their Desire to entertain and cultivate with the King of *Spain*, as well as with his most Christian Majesty, a perfect Friendship and good Intelligence. That this Answer shall be sent to M. *Van Heemskerck*, Ambassador Extraordinary from their High and Mightinesses at the Court of his most Christian Majesty, with Orders to present it to his said Majesty, and besides to congratulate from their High and Mightinesses, wherever it may be convenient: And in case his Sickness should hinder him from doing this his Duty, that he causes this Answer to be presented by his Secretary. And the Extract of this present Resolution shall be given to M. *de Briord*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his most Christian Majesty, by the Agent *Rosenboom*, to serve as an Answer to the Memorial, by which he has given the Letter of his said Majesty to their High and Mightinesses, as also to the Count *d'Avaux*, who is above-mentioned, to make such use of it as he shall judge convenient.

A Letter from the STATES-GENERAL to the French King, dated February 22. 1701.

Translated out of French.

SIRE,

AS soon as it had pleased your Majesty to impart to Us the Accession of King *Philip* the Fifth, your Grandson, to the Crown of *Spain*; We shew'd the Concern We have always had, and shall always take, in the good Fortune of your Majesty, and the aggrandizing of your Royal House; and We alledged, at the same time, the Reasons which hindered Us to explain Ourselves then on this Subject. We renew at present Our first Assurances, and to let your Majesty see that We do truly take part in your Concerns, and those of your Royal Family, We would no longer defer the congratulating your Majesty on this Succession. We will do as much to the King of *Spain* himself, and We will let him know Our Desire to cultivate with him the same Friendship and good Intelligence, which We have kept up with the late Kings of *Spain* his Predecessors. We pray your Majesty to approve of Our Congratulations, and to believe that they are the more sincere and solid, because We have ripely considered the Affair; and therefore We hope also from your Goodness, that the Attention We have shewn for it, will serve as

a good Excuse for the having delayed the explaining Ourselves for some time upon it. We wish, Sir, with all our heart, that this great Event may contribute to the Glory of your Majesty, to the Preservation of the Peace and the publick Repose, and to the strengthening and increasing of the good Intelligence, in which We have the Honour to live with your Majesty, as you give us room to hope: We will endeavour to contribute to it all that shall depend from Us, and we pray your Majesty to be strongly persuaded of it, as also of the great Esteem We always have for your Affection for Our Republick, and of the Veneration We have for your Royal Person. For the rest, &c.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 17. 1701. O.S.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 23d arrived on Saturday, and has been laid before His Majesty. I have no Directions yet to send you, but Matters will now ripen apace.

The States-General's Envoy presented a Memorial to His Majesty, acquainting Him they were come to a Resolution that they would acknowledge the King of *Spain*, and this they did to shew, they would not, by their Delay, furnish any Pretence to charge them with having designed a War; but having done it, they should proceed to negotiate their Security, and how the Peace of *Europe* should be preserved, and what they did therein should be in Concert with their Allies, and more particularly with His Majesty. Not knowing what the Success might be, they put His Majesty in mind of the Treaties subsisting between the two Nations, that in case *France* were resolved to break with them, His Majesty would have the Succours in a Readiness, that He is obliged to send them. This His Majesty communicated to the House of Commons this Afternoon, when the House attended Him with the Address they resolved on upon *Friday*, delivering to the Speaker a Translation of the *Dutch* Memorial; telling them, that as to the first part of it, which is the Recognition of the King of *Spain*, He asked their Advice; and as to the latter part of it, the having the Succours ready, according to Our Treaty, He desired their Assistance. When the Report hereof is made, it will soon come under Debate, and the same Memorial is to be communicated to-morrow to the Lords.

His Majesty communicated this Day to both Houses a Letter from the Earl of *Melfort* to his Brother the Earl of *Perth*, dated the 18th of *February*, which was brought hither (I suppose not designedly) in the *French* Mail that brought the *Paris* Letters of the 19th. It sets forth his Schemes to set on foot another Invasion, and discovers he has held too close a Correspondence with the Duke of *H——n*. He uses many Arguments to get my Lord *Middleton* discarded, and recommends himself as much fitter to be trusted. Upon reading this Letter, the House of Commons immediately applied themselves to consider the State of the Fleet, and will do all they can to put it in a Readiness. The Lords have ordered this Letter to be printed, but it being long, you cannot have it 'till next Post. In the mean time I can't but mention one Expression in it, *viz.* That this Opportunity must be improved, now the Court of *France* is dissatisfied with the Prince of *Orange* for his Treacheries discovered in their hands. His Majesty does not know what they should mean by it, unless it arises from the Letters *Jolly* brought, which His Majesty knows nothing of. You know all that we have sent to *Spain*, which is Assurances of Friendship, if they have the same Disposition on their side, and to exhort them to preserve their Liberty. If this be an Offence, it is impossible to avoid it with *France*.

I suppose you will hear a good deal of this Letter, and that the Parties concerned will not well like that it is come hither and made thus publick. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

Copy

*Copy of the DUTCH Envoy's Memorial to the King, presented
at London, February $\frac{1}{2}$. 1701.*

Translated out of French.

THE underwritten Envoy Extraordinary of the States-General of the United Provinces has Orders to represent to your Majesty, with a profound Respect, that their High and Mightinesses having considered that their Delay of owning the Duke of *Anjou* for King of *Spain* was subject to malicious Interpretations, as if all their Aim had only been to put themselves in a Condition to make War; they thought themselves obliged to proceed to the said Recognition of the Duke of *Anjou* without any Condition, reserving to themselves to stipulate in the Negotiation, to be entered on, the necessary Conditions to secure the Peace of *Europe*: in which Negotiation their High and Mightinesses are firmly resolved to do nothing but with the Intervention of your Majesty and the other Powers interested in the Maintenance of the Peace, as they have expressly declared to the Ambassador of *France*. The underwritten has particular Orders to give your Majesty the most positive Assurances, that their High and Mightinesses will make no Step in this important Affair, but in Concert with you, praying you for that Reason to send to your Minister at the *Hague* the Instructions and the Orders that are necessary to act conjointly in this Negotiation, and not to conclude any thing the one without the other, and except *England* and *Holland* find equally their Security in it, which shall at the same time serve to strengthen the publick Repose. But as it might happen not to be possible to agree with *France* and *Spain* on reasonable Conditions, and that thus the Negotiation being interrupted, their High and Mightinesses should be all of a sudden attacked by the numerous Troops, which *France* has caused to move to their Frontiers, they have ordered the Underwritten to represent to your Majesty the extream want they should have, in such a Danger, of the Assistance of *England*, and to ask of you, that you may have the Goodness to keep the Succours, stipulated by the Treaty, in Readiness; that so, if the Case should happen, they may count upon it, &c.

GELDERMALSUM.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 2. 1701.

I See by yours of *February* 10. the great Shyness of the *French* in letting any of our Ships come into their Harbours. They are setting out a great Fleet, and I hope the Advices, I have formerly given you, have sufficiently convinced us of the necessity of doing the like. I shall now repeat again how that matter stands. On the 1st of *January* a Contract was signed for Thirty Men of War to be ready by the end of this Month. In the Beginning of *February* another was made, which increased them to Fifty-five; and now very lately they have increased them to Eighty. Some say more. Twelve of them are designed for the *West-Indies*. The rest may chance to visit us, and so prevent our Fleet's joining, which will consequently make them Masters of the Sea. They are to put out some Galleys at *Port-Louis*, and thereabouts. The Men are coming from *Toulon*, where they disarm several Vessels, in order to man their Fleet the sooner.

I have received the King's Speech from *Dover*. The Thursday's Letters are not yet come. I see we are peaceably inclined. They have the Speech also at Court. I hear they do not know what to make of it, and still suspect us. I do not doubt but we shall take right Measures in whatever our Intentions are. I should think we ought to set out all the Ships we can, and Time will shew the Advantage of it. We shall at least prevent thereby any Affront,

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if not the Ruin of *England*: for, rely on it, if an Invasion was intended, they could not take other Measures than they do.

Count *d'Estree* is going for *Brest*, as are other Officers that belong to the Sea. I am told by one, who had it from *Monf. d'Estree*, that they should have Fifty-five Men of War ready to sail by the Beginning of *April*, and the whole Fleet of *France* in Two Months after. It is impossible for me to know what is a doing in every particular Port, since all Letters here are opened, or it is thought so, wherefore none dare to give an account of things of that nature; and tho' I take all the Care I can, I find it difficult to know the Truth exactly in much smaller Matters. I must confess I am a little uneasy, by reason no Letters from *England* mention in what Readiness our Fleet is, which makes me enlarge on that Subject more than otherwise I should have done.

What His Majesty mentions in relation to our own Succession, will, if done, prevent in some measure any ill Designs against His Person, or that of the Princess: but at the same time, were they not otherwise engaged, it would produce no good Understanding, since it takes away the Pretensions of *Savoy*, and consequently that of this Family here. I do believe that they will take no notice of it to me: but I assure you that, on the Death of the Duke of *Gloucester*, they were very uneasy, till they were satisfied that the House of *Hanover* was not in the Act of Settlement.

Here is come an Express with News that the King of *Spain* arrived at *Madrid* the 18th of last Month. The Constable of *Castille* will soon make his publick Entry. If he notifies his Arrival to me, I shall return the Compliment, as I have already your Directions therein.

The Letter from the States was delivered to *Monf. de Torcy* by the Secretary of the *Dutch* Ambassador. It was extremely well received, and the King will write to Them. I hope to send the Copy of this Letter in my next. *Monf. de Torcy* did tell me, that the King did intend to withdraw his Troops out of *Flanders*, as soon as the Troops, which the King of *Spain* was raising there, were compleat. This I suppose will not be till all other Matters are settled with the States, which will soon be, in case they desire nothing but the renewing of Treaties with *Spain*, &c. It is positively said, tho' not publickly owned at Court, that the Treaty with the Duke of *Savoy* is sign'd, and that he is to be General, and that *Monf. de Catinat* is to command under him. Besides the Hundred Thousand Livres a Month, which he is to have, the Six Thousand Foot and Two Thousand Horse, which he is to furnish, are to be paid by *France*. *L'Estape* is also settled for the Troops that are to pass his Country, at a Livre a day for each Foot-Soldier, and two Livres for a Horseman. This the Duke will put into his Pocket, and the Country will be obliged to furnish the Provisions.

The Men, which the Parishes of *France* were to furnish, did amount to Thirty-three Thousand Men, which they say has succeeded so well, that now Seven Thousand more are ordered to be raised in the like manner. I am of opinion, that they have no other way of getting Soldiers. It is taken for granted, that *Monf. de Villeroy* will command on the *Rhine*, and *Monf. de Boufflers* in *Flanders*.

Notwithstanding all this, the general Discourse here is, that there will be no War. I am satisfied that the People here do not desire it: but this ought not to make us less apprehensive of the Posture they are in here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 23. 1701. O. S.

I Send you inclosed the Earl of *Melfort's* Letter printed by Order of the House of Lords. I suppose there will be no question made at *St. Germain's*, whether the Letter be genuine or not, at least *Monf. Tallard* does not call that into doubt, tho' he seems much offended at the Letter's being communicated to the Lords and Commons. He endeavoured to speak with me on Monday Night, but I was gone to *Kensington*; and upon his writing to me next Morning that I would appoint him a time, when he might speak with me, I went to him. He was full of Expostulations of the Letter's being carried to the two Houses by my Lord-Chamberlain and myself, as if it were done to create an Animosity between the two Nations, and to give the Alarm that the *French* had formed a Design to invade *England*; whereas this appeared to be only a chimerical Notion of *Melfort*, who (as he often repeated) was *un fou & un extravagant*; that he was banished from the Court of King *James*, and had nothing to do in the Court of *France*; that his waiting upon *Madam Maintenon*, was only to get two of his Daughters put into the Nunnery of *St. Cyr*; that he had no Access to the *French* Ministers, but was spinning Cobwebs of his own, and there ought to have been no occasion taken from thence to create Jealousies and Misunderstandings. That the *French* had shewn their Disposition to live in Friendship with *England*, and he thought Care ought to be taken on our side not to give any Grounds to believe that we were picking a Quarrel with them; and this he thought necessary to tell me, as a matter that deserved Attention.

I told him, the Letter contained something that might appear Notional, and like a Project of his own; but other parts of it laid down Facts, that it extremely concerned us to provide against; such as the fitting out a Fleet in *France*, that was like to be Master of the Sea this Summer; that we could make no Provision for our Safety but in Parliament, and therefore it was fit they should be acquainted with our Danger, and that the Proofs of it should be laid before them. That in *France* they could dispatch every thing *dans le Cabinet*. We had not so ready a way in *England*, but what we did must be publickly & *dans le Marché*. Whoever had suppressed such an Advice here, might justly have expected an Accusation of Treason against him.

He said, he did not disown but they were fitting out Ships to Sea, but they did it upon the Preparations making in *Holland*, where they were at work Night and Day, as well Sundays as other Days, to get out their Fleet, therefore they could not do less in *France*; but they were not fitting so many Ships as was represented, and that they had no Thoughts of being at Sea these three or four Months.

I told him, I should be glad there might be no occasion for any Fleet's coming out on either side. I was sure all we aimed at was to be on the Defensive, and should be much better pleased, and think it more our Interest, to be disarming of Ships than arming them. As to the Character he gave my Lord *Melfort* of *fou & insensé*, when we saw him treated as such in *France*, we should be willing to have the same Opinion of him; 'till then, we could not but remember what an Instrument he had been in promoting the intended Assassination and Invasion, and must be concerned, that he is bringing himself again into play upon the same bottom, and by his way of Writing, at least one must suspect that he is admitted into Conversations with the *French* Ministers. It seemed very extraordinary, that he should press the improving this Opportunity, now the Court of *France* had Resentments upon the Discovery of some Treachery they thought His Majesty guilty of.

He said this was a pure Fiction of *Melfort's*. I told him, I was glad to hear them say so, and His Majesty was very well satisfied that He had given no occasion for any one's having such hard Thoughts of Him. I asked him once

or

or twice, whether he knew of any Discovery of this kind. He said, he never heard any thing like it, and there was no such thing in reality.

In conclusion he said, that People ought rather to appease Jealousies on both sides than inflame them. I told him, he could contribute a great deal towards it, and I hoped he would make use of his Power. What I could do in any Case would be inconsiderable, but no Endeavours of mine should be wanting to remove Misunderstandings, and to secure the publick Peace.

I have received your Letter of the 26th, and have sent it to His Majesty with Monf. *Schonenberg's*, from whom I had a Letter on Tuesday by the *Spanish* Packet-Boat. He has sent me a Duplicate of his Letter of the 18th, which Mr. *Jolly* should have brought. I don't see what Exceptions are to be taken to it to make such a noise about. He repeats the Points of his Instructions, and how he has pursued them by his Applications to the Regency, by the Secretary of State, and other hands; and that they returned uncertain Answers, referring those Matters rather to be treated of in *France*, not daring so much as to promise us their Friendship and good Correspondence, without first asking Leave from the *French* Court. And when he pressed the Secretary that their new King might notify to His Majesty his Accession to the Throne, as he did to the *Dutch*, he shrugged up his Shoulders, and made no Answer to it.

I have a Letter likewise from Dr. *Aglionby*, but he had seen but few People, and is not like to signify much there.

I don't doubt but you have our Parliament-News from many hands. However, I must not omit sending you the Vote that passed this day, both in the Committee and the House, upon considering the *Dutch* Envoy's Memorial. You will see it has fully answered all that His Majesty desired, and I must needs say that I never saw so great a Spirit in the House of Commons, and such a Resolution to preserve *Holland* as well as *England*. I hope it will have that good Effect on your side, as to produce a fair Disposition to treat upon reasonable Terms, that a War may be prevented; which I see we shall not decline, if we are forced into it by Necessity: but if *France* has any Inclination to Peace, we may still hope for it.

The Man *Collins* brought over proves no better than I expected. He says the Men are here he told you of, and that he spoke with one of them, but he would have his Corresponding with them continued on. But I am used to these Amusements, and shall press him to let me know where some of these People are to be found, or I will not be long trifled with. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 5. 1701.

I Have yours of the 13th and 17th past to acknowledge, whereby I find that the Messenger came safe; which I was afraid of, tho' I could not do otherwise than I did in a Case of this nature. The Person is now in your power, and if he does not make it out, you may do what you please with him. I cannot think that it is his own Invention; for what advantage can he hope from it? but he may possibly have heard some such Discourse. I have made enquiry after the Names, and I cannot hear of any such Persons, but only *Moor* at *Dunkirk*. It is true, most of those at *St. Germain's* have several Names they go by.

I am glad that the Letter of my Lord *Melfort* is fallen into your hands. Certainly it will open People's Eyes in *England*; and those that seem to doubt that they have such Thoughts here, have Reasons for it. The only Hopes they have now left at *St. Germain's* are, that they are to be restored by a *French* Power in a short time, and the Intrigues carried on in *Scotland* are too apparent to be doubted on.

The Expression in the Letter, which you mention, must mean what was found in the Packet of Mr. *Jolly*, which he grounded on the Reports at
Paris,

Paris, and this went so far, that they said there was a Design to poison the King of *Spain*. This shews how little the *French* Court trusts any of them, else they would have been better informed. There can have been nothing in *Monf. Schonenberg's* Letter but an Answer to the Instructions he had, whereby we might have seen in what Disposition they were in relation to us, &c. I hope by this time you will have heard from him. As for *Spain's* depending on *France*, I have often shewed to *Monf. de Torcy* what Jealousy that might, and does give to *Europe*: but he always assured me, that it was not the King's Intention, tho' at present he could not but assist them, they not being in a Condition to help themselves, that so that matter can have had no ill Effect, &c. I have taken no notice to *Monf. de Torcy* of the Accident that happened to my Servant, nor did I think it proper 'till I was further informed by *M. Schonenberg*.

I believe this Court will be very angry with Lord *Melfort*; for it is plain, by several accounts, and particularly by *Monf. Tallard's* printing *M. d'Avaux's* Memorial, that they are not willing to break with us, tho' I still admire at their Proceedings in *Flanders*. Orders are now sent to all Colonels to repair to their Regiments there. A Body of *French* is marching towards *le Pais de Gueldre*, and another to *Charleroy*, as also a Train of Artillery. This is in order to besiege some Place, by which means they hope that the *Dutch* will be obliged to come to their Terms: tho' they pretend here that this is only done to be in Readiness to oppose any Designs against them; and that they are assured by *Monf. de Villars*, from *Vienna*, that there is a Treaty signed between Us, the Emperor, and *Holland*. I believe the contrary will now be soon seen, since all the Treaties are to be laid before the House of Commons.

I am told that twelve Men of War are sailed from *Rochefort* to *Brest*, under the Command of *Monf. de Coetlogon*, and that the Rendezvous of the whole Fleet is to be there. They will have there Forty-five Men of War ready to sail by the middle of this Month.

I have inclosed a Copy of the King of *France's* Letter to the States, which *Monf. d'Avaux* is to deliver, and I cannot hear that he has yet any Instructions further than to hear what the States will demand in relation to their Security.

They begin to come again from *England* to *St. Germain's*. One *Aylmer*, (at least this is the Name he goes by here) is lately come over with Letters. He was carried down to *Romney-Marsh* by one *Baker*, a Carrier, and from thence over the Sea by *Abraham Cretweck*, an Owl. One *Mr. B——n*, a Gentleman of some Estate, as also one Captain *A——ld* are come. I am sorry I cannot give you a better account. I find it now harder to do than ever, because they all expect to come soon to *England*: but I do not doubt, by the way we are in, but we shall disappoint them once more. The late King was yesterday taken ill of an Apoplexy, but he is now better. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Letter from the King of FRANCE to the STATES-GENERAL.

Translated out of French.

Very Dear, Great Friends, Allies, and Confederates;

THE Letter which you have wrote to us on the 22d of *February* confirms the Opinion which we had of your true Sentiments, founded on the Affection we have for you. We see with pleasure the part you take in the Accession of our Grandson to the Crown of *Spain*, and the Desire which you shew to contribute to the maintaining the general Tranquillity happily re-established by the late Treaties. You must also not doubt, but that my Intentions are intirely conformable to what you desire. And remembring always Our ancient Friendship, and that of the Kings Our Predecessors, for your Republick, We shall be very glad that Our present Union with the King of

Spain

Spain may serve to procure you new Securities for your State, and new Advantages for your Commerce. In the mean while, We pray God that He keep you, very Dear, Great Friends, Allies and Confederates, in his holy and worthy Care. Written at *Versailles* the 3d of *March*, 1701.

Your good Friend, Ally and Confederate,

Sign'd LEWIS.
Counter-Signed, COLBERT.

A Letter to the STATES-GENERAL.

Translated out of French.

High and Mighty Lords,

THE Letter from your High and Mightinesses of the 22d of *February*, with the Papers relating to the owning of the new King of *Spain*, therunto annexed, has been safely delivered to me. I cannot enough thank your High and Mightinesses for that Honour, and for the Management you were pleased to observe, as to me, in an Affair of this nature. I have nevertheless meddled with it, as much as my Character would permit me, and I entertained *Monf. de Torcy* with it last *Tuesday*. I asked that Minister, if the Step which your High and Mightinesses had just made, did not mark visibly the Sincerity of your Intention to maintain the Publick Quiet, if the King had not reason to be very much pleased with it, and what his Majesty would do now in relation to his Troops, to shew on his side the same Disposition. He answered me, That certainly his Majesty was very glad of it, and that, tho' the Letter from your High and Mightinesses required no Answer, his Majesty had nevertheless resolved to answer it; but that in relation to his Troops, he would withdraw them as soon as the King of *Spain* should be in a Condition to guard his Places himself. I say nothing to your High and Mightinesses about the manner in which your Letter was delivered to the King, nor in the rest of the Particulars, taking the liberty to refer you to the Letters which *Mr. Vroesen* has wrote to *Mr. Fagel*. I hope, my Lords, that the Wisdom of your High and Mightinesses will find out wholesome Expedients, and such as will be proper for the establishing your Security, and the general Quiet; and I am, with all the Veneration in the world, &c.

Paris, March 4. 1701.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, February 24. 1701. O. S.

YOUR Letter of the 2d of *March*, N. S. arrived on Saturday, and was immediately sent to *Kensington*. It has been since read at the Cabinet-Council, while the Lords of the Admiralty were attending. All possible diligence will be used for putting ourselves in a posture of Defence: But as the Parliament sat late, (which many are offended at) our Preparations will be somewhat backwarder than perhaps they ought to be. But there is a Spirit in the House of Commons to press forward every thing that is necessary, which would hardly be so warm and intent, if the Necessity did not appear as evident as you have made it.

You will see by the Resolution of the House of Commons of Thursday last, and by His Majesty's Answer to it when it was presented to him next day, that there is a very good Accord between His Majesty and the Parliament; and one may promise one's self, that it will continue, and appear more and more in every thing that is essential to our Preservation.

His Majesty will send *Mr. Stanhope* Instructions by to-morrow's Post, pursuant to the Address of the House of Commons, for His entering into Negotiations in concert with the States and other Potentates. I do not yet find that *Monsieur d'Avaux* intends to propose any thing at the *Hague*. I sup-

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pose therefore the Overtures will soon be made on our part, that is, by the States and other Allies. In the mean time, one would expect that there should be no such delays and impediments given to the Return of the *Dutch* Troops, nor Camps be formed, as if an Invasion was more thought of than an Accommodation.

The House of Commons have been as unanimous in their Resolutions to support the Publick Credit, as they were in their Advice to His Majesty, and the Assurances they gave him of their Assistance. The Resolutions they have taken to-day will restore the Credit of Exchequer-Bills, that was sinking, and gave occasion to the Report you had heard. It is now resolved to provide a Fund for paying off those Bills by degrees, and in the mean time that a new Supply be given for the Circulating them. To-morrow they will settle the Number of Seamen they intend to employ in the Fleet, and then all ways will be taken for the speedy raising them.

I desired my Lord *Godolphin* to take notice of that part of your Letter which concerns your own Supply, and I hope you will find the effects of it in the Treasury. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 9. 1701.

I Had not your Letter of *February* 10, till I came from *Versailles*, where I found that a Courier of Monsieur *de Tallard* was arrived the day before, with the Resolutions of the Parliament, and a Copy of Lord *Melfort's* Letter. The Conference I had with Monsieur *de Torcy* was much the same with what you had with the Count *de Tallard*, his discourse turning in the same manner, that the exposing this Letter was only to create and excite Animosities in the Nation; that it shewed a desire of breaking with *France*; that he had sent for Lord *Melfort*, who was with him this Morning, and did own that he had wrote a Letter of that date, and that it was lost, which he believed gave occasion for the framing of this; that he had mentioned something in it of Madam *de Maintenon*, whom he had seen about his private Affairs; but he denies almost all that is in the Letter. As for that of the Bishop of *Norwich*, he could have no grounds to say it, since he hardly knew him, and he was satisfied of the contrary. As for Lord *A—n*, he was convinced he was not in King *James's* Interest; that he was rather setting up for himself, as having some pretence to the Crown of *Scotland*. In short, I found his opinion was, that it was contrived only to frame a design to incense the Nation, and to break with *France*, &c. He said, that I was sensible how little credit Lord *Melfort* had at this Court, or at *St. Germain's*. He read the Letter to me, as also a Paper cried about the Streets of *London*, of a new Plot or Conspiracy of *France* against *England*. The Answer I made him was, that by my last Letter I had some account of this Letter; that by as much as I knew of it, I did not in the least doubt but they were Lord *Melfort's* Thoughts, and wrote by him; but at the same time I was satisfied that the *French* Court was far from taking such measures. That, as to the communicating it to the Parliament, if he knew our Constitution, he would know that it was impossible to do otherwise in this Conjunction, when greater Preparations by Sea and Land were never known to be made than are actually making now in *France*, which was no secret, nor did I believe that there was any desire that it should be so: That he must forgive me, if I thought Lord *Melfort* was not so despicable a Person, since I saw him often at Court, which, here especially, is no sign of it, since Men of that Character were not permitted to approach so near to the King: That not having yet my Letters of the last Post from *England*, I could not tell what effect it had caused; but that my opinion was still, that we were far from desiring a War, neither could it be our Interest, unless we were obliged to it for our own

Security,

Security, and consequently that of *Holland*. I also took notice of that Expression of the discovery of some Treachery which the King was supposed to be guilty of, and which I did not understand, unless it meant the extravagant Reports that were at *Paris*, of Letters found, which my Servant, who was drowned, brought from *Madrid*; and I did not doubt but he knew the substance of them very well, and was convinced of the contrary of the Reports. I told him also, that the Proceedings of the Viceroy of *Navarre* in opening the Letters, and sending them to *Madrid*, could not be any ways justifiable, since he could easily see that they were directed to a Publick Minister residing at the Court of *France*. He did own, he could not tell the meaning of that Expression, since the King was far from having any such Thoughts. He seemed to know nothing of the Letters, but he had heard of this Accident; but he condemned very much the opening of them. I said further, that as for the Paper cried about the Streets, I did believe it was not done by Order; that they printed what they pleased in *England*, tho' if the Authors were discovered, they were liable to be punished. Because it is not sent to me, I am of opinion it is such a Paper as we have often at *London*: But I do assure you, it makes more impression here than the Letter. Endeavours are used to make it to be believed, that it was forged only to serve a turn, as they say has been the custom at the beginning of Parliaments. This must reflect on the Honour of His Majesty: and I did venture to say to Monsieur *de Torcy*, that in case it could be supposed such a Letter was forged, did not doubt but I might produce the Original, if there was any occasion.

I wonder he did not mention to me what had passed between you and Monsieur *de Tallard*. In short, I am told, they take it for granted that we shall enter into a War; and as I happened to come a little later to *Versailles* yesterday than usual, the whole Court had it, that we had declared War: but when they saw me, it soon put a stop to that Report.

I am glad to see that the Parliament goes on so well, that we need fear nothing; and I hope to see things carried on, on our side, as high as others do, which is the only way to procure what we aim at.

The marching of the *French* Troops into the *Spanish Guelderland* is in order to prevent the Troops of *Brandenburg* and the Elector Palatine from joining the *Dutch*, and also to be in a readiness to besiege *Maestricht*, which, I can assure you, is the Resolution that is already taken, in case of a War. I am told, what Time will shew, that the Elector of *Cologne* has agreed with *France* to give them possession of several of his Places on the *Rhine*, as also of *Liege*, he being dissatisfied. He is to have a very considerable Sum of Money and a Pension. I have some reason to believe this to be true.

The Constable of *Castille* makes his Entry on Sunday next, and is to have his Audience on Monday, when the King goes to *Marly*. Count *Aversperg* is here, and stays but ten days. I have not seen him yet, but I intend to see him to-day. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, March 10. 1701.

I Have received nothing from you by the last Post from *Paris*, and as I nevertheless flatter myself that your Excellency has done me the favour to write to me, I apprehend that your Letters have been intercepted. The Affairs here go still on in the same Tract, this Court making it its glory to sink deeper and deeper into a blind dependence and regard for his most Christian Majesty; which is observed in all the Affairs in general, and without exception.

France

France solicites the Court of *Lisbon* strongly to enter into an indefeafible Alliance with *Spain*; and it is not only faid that *Portugal* wavers, but even that it has already given into it, for fear of expofing itfelf alone to the Re- fentment of *France*. The new King did on the 25th of *February*, admit to a publick and folemn Audience all the Ambaffadors, the Grandees, and the Council in a Body. The Minifters of the fecond Order (excepting myfelf) have demanded juft the fame, but hitherto they have not been able to obtain it, which vexes them.

The Troops of *Catalonia* defigned for the *Milanefe*, have received Counter- orders. The Cavalry will be took from it, and fome of them will be made ufe of to watch for the Security of *Andalufia*, in cafe of a Rupture; and the reft will perhaps be lodged about *Madrid*, to give more Luftre and Weight to the Royal Authority.

The Reform in the Council has been put in execution, tho' with a great deal of Moderation, and only the half of the yearly Pensions has been re- trench'd; neverthelefs the murmuring and difcontent is almoft general among thofe that are concerned. They have likewife taken from the Almirante of *Caftile* the Poft of Captain-General by Land and by Sea, as alfo the Salary annexed to it. The Appointments which the Count of *Aguilar* enjoyed as General of the Sea, have alfo been taken off. Don *Manuel Arias* has been made one of the Council of State; and the Poft of Commiffary-General of *Spain* has been given to the Marquis de *Gaftanaga*. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 12. 1701.

THEY now begin to believe here that Lord *Melfort* wrote the Letter, for he has in a manner owned it. Befides, Lord *Middleton* is fo treated, that his Party is glad enough of the occafion to ruin the other. What the Court of *France* will do with him, is yet uncertain. He went to *St. Germainis*, but was refufed entrance into the Caftle, and I fuppofe he will not be feen at *Versailles*.

I had forgot to tell you in my laft, that the Pope, thinking this Conjuncture favourable, did write to the *French* King to permit the Cardinal de *Bouillon* to come to his Abbey of *Clugny*, upon which the Nuntio had an Audience, and the Cardinal was fet out from *Rome*. But the King has abfolutely refufed it, fo that a Courier was fent to ftop him on his way. How acceptable this will be to the Pope, one may eafily imagine.

The Conftable of *Caftile* makes his Entry to-morrow. He has notified his arrival to the *Dutch* Ambaffador. I have not heard any thing of him, nor do I believe that I fhall. He is extremely difatisfied at his being left out of the Bed-Chamber, the King of *Spain* having reduced the fifty that were, to fix. Befides, he meets with other mortifications here, and now it is faid that he was ever in the Intereft of the Queen, which is crime enough: fo that his ftay here will be very fhort.

I have feen the Count of *Aversperg*, who confirms what you hear from *Spain*, viz. that nothing is done but by Order from *Versailles*, and that there is that fubmiffion, that the King of *France* is, if that be poffible, more abfolute there than he is here. He alfo tells me, that Monsieur *Schonenberg* has reprefented to the Regents, in very high terms, the opening of his Letters, and the not fending them forward as directed: but they would not explain themfelves on that fubject. I have lately had an account from *Bayonne*, that the Viceroy fent them to the King of *Spain*, who was not then come to the Frontiers; fo that there is no doubt but they came hither, which makes me ftill admire that they do not all this while improve the Opportunities they have had, fince they faw the difpofition the King our Mafter had. This, as well

well as other things, should convince one that they have other Designs, and that they are not inclined, as they pretend, to Peace. Yet I can assure you, that since the Resolution of our Parliament, the King is very uneasy, and his Ministers are out of Humour.

The Warlike Preparations go on with all the vigour imaginable. A Detachment of the Musquetaires is ordered to march by the 6th of next Month. Some conclude from thence that the King intends for *Brussels*, but I rather take it to be design'd against *Maastricht*.

I expect to hear soon what progress Monsieur *d'Avaux* has made, and as the Negotiation will be carried on there, so it will be convenient I should know what steps are made, by which means I may contribute towards it here; or, at least, I ought to know His Majesty's Intentions, so as to act accordingly.

I have inclosed a Copy of the Pope's Letter to the late King at *St. Germain's*. He continues still very ill, and some think he will not recover. I have none of yours to acknowledge, the Post from *England* being not yet arrived. I hope when it does come, it will let the *French* see our Fleet will soon be ready. I have no Letters by the *Spanish* Post from Monsieur *Schonenberg*, which I wonder at; but it may be that there was nothing worth writing. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 3. 1701. O. S.

I Have your Excellency's Letters of the 5th and 9th to acknowledge. The first arrived late on Thursday, and the other this Morning. They have been both laid before his Majesty. I can't but smile at the turn my Lord *Melfort* gives to his Letter, that he should own his having lost the Letter he writ about that time, and think to impose upon any body that gave occasion to the forging of another. Monsieur *Tallard* (as I acquainted you) made no doubt but it was his Letter, and I imagine Monsieur *Torcy* thinks so too. My Lord *Seafeld* being newly come up from *Scotland*, I shewed him the original Letter this Morning: he is well acquainted with Lord *Melfort's* Hand-writing and Seal, and knows both to be genuine.

As to the printed Paper that was sent to Monsieur *Torcy*, of the discovery of a new *French* Plot upon *England*, I know nothing of it, nor have I met with any body that has seen it. I suppose it must be some *Grubstreet* Writer, and those, you know, print any stuff to get a penny, and their News dies as soon as it comes out; therefore I wonder Monsieur *Tallard* should lay any stress upon such unknown, unauthorized Pieces, which he knows creep out daily on both sides, and are not taken notice of by either. It is not a fair Charge upon us, that we seek occasions to stir up Animosities, and to pick Quarrels with them. For my part, I should be glad they would shew us the way how they are to be avoided with any reasonable Security to Ourselves and Neighbours.

Since my last, we have been upon that part of the Speech which relates to the Succession, and have only made some entrance upon it. I need not trouble you with Votes at length, since they are sent to you; but as it was almost unanimously resolved to enlarge the Succession, so before they agree on the Person and Family, it is determined they will consider what further Rights and Liberties shall be insisted on in behalf of the People, to be declared and established in the same Bill with the Succession. What those are, does not yet appear, and perhaps may take up some time in adjusting them. If those Points can be settled, I think there will be no great difficulty in limiting the Succession to the Electress Dowager of *Hanover* and her Issue.

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Mr.

Mr. *Stepney* is going with the Character of Envoy Extraordinary to *Vienna*. He tells me, he hopes to be ready by the end of this Week. As for the Reports of a new League between *England*, *Holland*, and the Emperor, you may assure yourself there is no ground for it. I know nothing that has been thought on but to procure Peace and Tranquillity, and not to be caught utterly defenceless; and if other People will press things to a Rupture, the blame ought not to be laid at our door. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 16. 1701.

I Have yours of the 24th and 27th past to acknowledge, and I do assure you that I am very easy, tho' at *Paris*, since Matters go on so well in *England*, to the Honour of his Majesty and the Nation. I have little to acquaint you with by this Post, the Court being at *Marly*, and I shall not see *Monf. de Torcy* till next *Tuesday*.

The late King is very ill, having had a second Fit of an Apoplexy, which was violent, and which has taken away the Use of his Limbs on one side of him. He has been blistered, and his Physicians are for having him go to *Bourbon*, if he recovered. Lord *Melfort* is sent to *Angers*. The Court of *France* concerted with that of *St. Germain*s first. Lord *Middleton* is not a little pleased.

Several reformed Officers are here named for the *Spanish Indies*, who will go soon with the Squadron of *Monf. de Coetlogon*, who, as I mentioned before, is come from *Rockfort* to *Brest*.

I suppose we are taking care of our Plantations, and especially of *Jamaica*, which I know they have some thoughts of, in case of a War.

All the King's Household has Orders to march by the 18th of next Month, and some think the King will go to *Compaigne*, if not farther. The Equipage of the Duke of *Burgundy* is preparing, and a Courier is sent to him, with Orders to return with all expedition. Ten Battalions more are ordered for *Milan*, and *Monf. de Catinat* goes away in a few days. The Capitation will be soon laid, and it is to begin from *January* last.

I begin to think that they will see the Issue of one Campaign, before they will agree to what we shall think reasonable. As for the Emperor, they declare positively against yielding up any part of the *Spanish* Monarchy, either to him, or to the Arch-Duke; but the Measures of the Court are so uncertain, that what they resolve against one day, they consent to in a little time after. The Constable of *Castille* notified his Arrival here only to those Ministers who have complimented the King of *France* in the Name of their Masters.

I take it, that *Monf. de Tallard*'s desiring that his Present should remain in the Master of the Ceremony's hands, is, because he has Orders to stay till they see what effect the Negotiation in *Holland* will have; and I do not see how he could have remained in *London*, if he had accepted it. Besides, it may be, that in case of a Rupture, he will not receive it. It was himself that pressed for the Audience of Leave; and I find now he would not have such Orders, were it not done, since they judge, and it may be with reason, that should he come away, I should do the like.

Count *Aversperg* is gone; he desired me to present his humble Services to you.

I am obliged to you for putting my Lord *Godolphin* in mind of me. I hope it will have a good Effect. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The

The POPE'S Letter to the EMPEROR.

Translated out of Italian.

CLEMENS XII. *to our most Dear Son in Christ, Health and the Apostolical Benediction.*

THO' we perceive, that it was not only the Knowledge of our Insufficiency which made us so very averse to undertake the heavy Charge of the Apostolical Ministry, our extraordinary Abhorrence of so great a Weight came perhaps also from a hidden Presage of so many Calamities which will render our Pontificate fatal. And in reality how can we not fear it should be such, when at the beginning of it we see the Arm of God armed with the most frightful Scourges with which he is wont to let fall his Indignation on the People, and just in the same time, in which, with the greatest Affliction, we consider this unhappy *Italy* near to being made the Theatre of a horrible War; and by consequence we must deplore the small Fruit of that Mediation which we have offered with so many Tears, and so many Sighings, and which we do not omit still to inculcate, by the most lively Remonstrances, by means of our Ministers, at the two other Courts. We are surprized with the unfortunate Advice, come to us from *Venice*, that the Suspicions of a Plague proceeding from *Croatia*, are come so strongly, as to oblige the Attention of that Government to banish the Commerce, and to suspend it besides with many Places on the *Austrian* Shore, and all the Islands of the *Levant*. In the midst of these heavy Anxieties, after having offered to God, accompanied by the publick and universal Prayers of the Church, the most profound Groans of our Spirit, to implore, in such dangerous Contingencies, the Effects of his Mercy, we did not know what other part to take, but to turn to your Majesty with the secret Sentiments of our Heart, as also our fatherly Speeches, praying you, as we do most instantly by this Letter wrote with our Hand, and sent you by a Courier express, not to permit that your Troops be the Bringers of formidable Disasters into *Italy*. This People deserves that your Majesty grant them, in such an Occasion, the Recompence of that Passion which they have always made manifest on the Accidents to your Most August House, the Holy Seat deserves, the Church deserves, God deserves, that as you have inherited of your illustrious Parents, which they signalized by their great Actions, that you prefer the publick Welfare to all other Regard, with a certainty that you strongly engage the divine Liberality in exchange with a hundred-fold of Successes by so glorious a Moderation. Thus we hope that it will fall out; so does God inspire Us efficaciously to write to your Majesty, to whom we do in the mean while grant with all the sincerity of our paternal Love, the Apostolical Benediction.

Given at Rome at St. Peter's, the 7th of March, 1701. The First of Our Pontificate.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 6. 1701. O. S.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 12th instant arrived here on Tuesday last, and was immediately sent to the King. It has not been returned to me since. I did not believe we should be long under suspicions of having counterfeited Letters to impose upon the World. If it were necessary, I could have the King's leave to send you the Original, which would shew it was all my Lord *Melfort's* writing, and that there has not been a word added to it.

The Occasion of sending this Express is to communicate to you the Instructions that have been sent from Sir *Charles Hedges* to Mr. *Stanhope*, about the Negotiations that are to be carried on at the *Hague*, and Mr. *Stanhope* has likewise Directions to acquaint you from time to time how they proceed upon it, as often as he can find any safe conveyance. At other times you will

receive Advice thereof from hence; and His Majesty would have you on your part support what you shall find proposed, and bring things to an amicable Accommodation, if it be possible. The *French* can't but have seen by what was writ to *Spain*, and by all the steps that have been taken here, that we have no Thoughts of War, if it is to be avoided; and if they intend we shall live in Peace, they will not refuse us a moderate Security for it, and treat us both in *France* and *Spain* as a People they would keep a Friendship with. If we are driven to extremity, we must do what necessity requires in such a case, and I believe we shall not be wanting to ourselves to make a vigorous Defence, if nothing but Force is to decide between us.

You will have heard from *Holland*, that a difficulty has arose there, which will prevent Mr. *Stanhope's* appearing at the opening of the Conferences, since they were to be held at Monsieur *d'Avaux's* House, where the Deputies of the States have the Right-hand given them by the Ambassador, which an Envoy must not pretend to there. His Majesty has determined that Mr. *Stanhope* shall waive any Contest with the States Deputies on this occasion; and as soon as he has received that Instruction, he will take his part in the Conferences, tho' I suppose they are begun in the mean time.

As to our Naval Preparations, we are now very intent upon them. It is to be wished we had begun them sooner. There are about sixty Ships of the third and fourth Rate that are ordered to Sea, but the Commissions for half of them were not delivered out till the beginning of this Week. All Methods are put in practice for the getting in of Seamen, and I hope they will be successful.

You will find by the Votes, that the settling the Succession goes on by seeming slow degrees. But they say, what is further to be considered of the Rights of the Subject will be dispatched in a Committee or two. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

WILLIAM R.

Instructions for Our Trusty and Well-beloved ALEXANDER STANHOPE Esq; Our Envoy Extraordinary to the STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces. Given at Kensington, the 25th Day of February, 1702. in the Thirteenth Year of Our Reign.

WHEREAS Our Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, have by their humble Addresses prayed that We would be pleased to enter into such Negotiations, in concert with the States-General of the United Provinces, and other Potentates, as may most effectually conduce to the mutual Safety of these Kingdoms, and the States-General, and the Preservation of the Peace of *Europe*; and that We have promised them immediately to order Our Minister abroad to enter into such Negotiations accordingly: You are therefore to enter forthwith into such Negotiations with the Ministers of *France* and *Spain*, and other Potentates, at the *Hague*, in Concert with the Ministers of the States-General, in order to obtain the Conditions following, and in all other Matters which the said States shall think necessary for their further Security.

1. That the most Christian King shall order all his Troops that now are, or shall be, in Garrison in any of the *Spanish* Towns in the *Netherlands*, actually to retire from thence, so as the same may be entirely evacuated of *French* Troops, within such time as shall be agreed upon, in the Treaty; and that he shall engage not to send any Forces into any of those Towns, or Countries.

2. That no Troops but such as consist of National-born Subjects of *Spain*, or *Germans*, continue in the *Spanish Netherlands*; except such Troops as are to be placed, and remain in Cautionary Towns, mentioned in the next Article.

3. That, for the better Security of Us, and the States-General, and quieting the Minds of Our People, there shall be delivered to Us, and to the said States, Cautionary Towns, within such time as shall be agreed by the Treaty, to be kept by Our Garrisons respectively, and none other; viz. to Us, the Towns of *Nieuport* and *Ostend*; and to the States-General, the Towns of *Luxemburg*, *Namur*, and *Mons*, in the condition they now are, to be kept by Our Garrisons, and those of the said States, respectively, during such time as shall be agreed upon; with a Proviso that the same be done without prejudice to the Rights, and Revenues of the Crown of *Spain*.

4. That no Towns or Countries belonging to the *Spanish Netherlands*, nor any Ports whatsoever, belonging to the Crown of *Spain*, shall be exchanged with *France*, or any ways delivered up, or put under the *French* Government.

5. That Our Subjects shall enjoy the same Liberties and Privileges, in all parts of the *Spanish* Dominions, as well by Sea, as on the Land, as they did at the time of the Death of the late King of *Spain*, and in as ample a manner, as the *French*, or any other Nation does, or shall do hereafter.

6. That the Emperor be invited to join in this Treaty, and that any other Princes or States, who think fit to unite for the Preservation of the Peace of *Europe*, may be admitted into the same.

7. That the States be desired to begin the Negotiations aforesaid, if the *French* Ambassadors do not; and you are to move them thereto.

8. You are to give a free Communication of these your Instructions, and such others as you shall receive from Us, and of all Proceedings on this Subject, to the Pensioner, and desire a reciprocal Communication from him, as a matter for Our Service.

9. You shall observe such further Instructions and Directions, on this Subject, as you shall from time to time receive from Us, or one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, with whom you shall constantly correspond, and transmit to him an Account of all Matters which shall happen in the Course of your Negotiation, and of all Occurrences of Moment that shall come to your Knowledge.

W. R.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, March 18. 1701.

I Understand by Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, that you have received His Majesty's Instructions to enter into Conferences with Monsieur *d'Avaux* conjointly with the Deputies of the States. I suppose the Ministers of other Princes have the same Liberty; so that War or Peace will depend on that Negotiation. You will oblige me by letting me know what passes, how you go on, and what the States are likely to demand in relation to their own Security, as likewise that of *Europe*. For tho' I partly know what would have once contented us, yet now the Face of Affairs is changed by the *French* their possessing themselves of *Flanders*. They say that they are for Peace, but at the same time they take the War to be inevitable; which they shew plainly by the Capitation-Tax being laid: In the Preamble of which they set forth, That the Emperor, the *English*, and the *Dutch* intend to declare War against *France*. I do not doubt but the States are very well satisfied with *England*.

I have inclosed the King's Answer to the Constable of *Castile*. The Duke of *Burgundy's* Equipage is preparing. It is said that he is to command in *Flanders*, with several Marshals of *France* under him. The Preparations go on with Expedition, and a little time will now shew us what we are to depend on.

King *James* has had two Fits of an Apoplexy, and is still ill. Lord *Melfort* is banished to *Angers*. All do now believe his Letter genuine. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Qqqq

The

*The FRENCH King's Answer to the Speech of the Constable of
CASTILE, mentioned in the foregoing Letter.*

Translated out of French.

S I R,

YOU may be well assured that I receive the Compliments of the King my Grandson with a great deal of pleasure; and the Acknowledgements which you represent to me from the Kingdom, and the States that compose the Monarchy, with great Satisfaction. They could not have chosen any Person to do it more pleasing to me than your self. You see at present the one and the other Nation so much united, that the two will hereafter be but one. As for myself, I am now the best *Spaniard* in the World; and if the King, my Grandson, asks my Advices, I shall give him only those that are for the Glory and the Interest of *Spain*. My Grandson will be seen at the Head of the *Spaniards*, to defend the *French*; and I shall be seen at the Head of the *French*, to defend the *Spaniards*. As for you, Sir, you must have perceived, since you was at this Court, the distinction I have shewn for your Person: and the Joy which my Subjects shewed yesterday to see you, is a mark of their knowing how much I esteem you, and how much I love the *Spaniards*.

Preamble of the Capitation-Tax.

Translated out of French.

LEWIS, by the Grace of God, King of *France* and *Navarre*, To all those who shall see these Letters, greeting. The just Disposition of *Charles* the Second, King of *Spain*, by which, to keep his Kingdoms in one single Body of Monarchy, and maintain the general Repose of *Europe*, he has called to the Succession of all his Dominions the Duke of *Anjou*, our Grandson, who is the legitimate Heir to it, by the Renunciation of our most dear Son the Dauphin, and of our Grandson the Duke of *Burgundy*, in his favour; having given new Reasons of Envy to the Princes our Neighbours, furnishes them at the same time with pretexts to recommence a War which we had happily extinguished by a Peace, the Conditions of which might have been advantageous to us, if we had not preferred the Repose of Our Subjects to Our own Interests. It is with the same view of the Good of our Subjects, and the Preservation of the Tranquillity of *Europe*, that we have been willing to desist from the Advantages of the Treaty of Partition, by which the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, the Dutchy of *Milan*, and the Province of *Guipuscoa* might have belonged to us; but which we could not put ourselves in possession of, without despoiling the Duke of *Anjou*, our Grandson, of the Rights he has acquired, and without at the same time renewing a War, which the Good of our Subjects, and of all *Europe*, obliged us to avoid. But the Motions and the Preparations that are made in *Germany*, in *England*, and in *Holland*, don't give us room to doubt, but that some Princes, jealous of the new Advantages of the House of *France*, and others with a design to subject entirely a People, to whom a longer Peace might have confirmed that Liberty which they enjoy, have resolved to renew the War: We find Ourselves obliged to put Ourselves into a Condition to oppose them with Forces at least equal to those they prepare, to dispute with our most dear and much-beloved Brother and Grandson, the King of *Spain*, the Right which he has acquired by Blood, by the Disposition of the Will of the late *Charles* the Second, and by the Suffrages and common Vows of all the People of his Kingdoms. We have with this Design given Our Orders for considerable Levies of Troops: But as a War does inevitably engage us in Expences which exceed our ordinary

dinary Incomes; as we have provided a Fund for the levying of the said Troops, and for their Clothing; as we have made Advances for Provisions, Artillery, Magazines, and other Expences, to be able to take the Field early, in case the Emperor, the *English*, and the *Hollanders* continue in the design to make War upon Us: We find Ourselves obliged to have recourse to extraordinary Funds that may be less burdensome to Our Subjects, than the Succours which we were obliged to procure in the last War, by Contracts, several whercof continue, and could not be executed but with great Expences, with which Our Subjects have been and are still burdened, without any profit to Ourselves. Among all the Means that have been proposed to Us, and which we have maturely considered in our Council, We have resolved that none is more convenient than the re-establishing of the Capitation, &c.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 19. 1701.

I Have none of your's to acknowledge, the Letters of Monday not being come. The Capitation is now printed, and I send it you by reason of the Preamble, by which one would think that a War was actually declared. I am told it will not amount to above thirty Millions *French*, tho' it will be laid on to almost double of what they paid last War. You may easily imagine how agreeable it is here, when they are like to be engaged in a War, which none is for, and most Men do now, since the Resolution of *England*, begin to think that *France* is not in a condition to maintain what they have undertaken so hastily. It has made a great Alteration in their Looks, Discourses, &c. The only hope now is in the Negotiation in *Holland*. Here is a Report at Court as if Lord *Galloway* was going to *Portugal*; I cannot but think that some Person like him would be useful there at this Conjunction.

I am assured that the Emperor and the King of *Poland* have signed a Treaty, notwithstanding the Endeavours of the Ministers of *France*. His Majesty must know this, if it is so, and that makes me often avoid mentioning any thing that is not properly in my Province. The Answer which the King made to the Constable of *Castile*, and which I have inclosed, is worth your seeing.

The late King is rather better, and is to go on the 19th of next Month to *Bourbon*, if he be able. The Instructions their Friends in *England* have now, are, to insinuate as if the P. Prince of *Wales* would turn Protestant, in order to keep off the Blow as long as they can.

Lord *Melfort* was ordered to *Angers* by a *Lettre de Cachet*, yet some will have it that he has underhand had Assurances that he shall be restored when Affairs will admit of it.

An Envoy from the Duke of *Saxe-Gotha* is arrived here to solicit the Court against the Ninth Electorate. He has not yet shewn his Credentials, nor had any Audience.

The Duke of *Shrewsbury* is gone to *Geneva*. I think this is right, and one would not be in their power, when there is no occasion, whilst we are under such Uncertainties. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 10. 1701. O.S.

I Received yesterday your Excellency's Letter of the 16th instant, and have laid it before His Majesty. I hear there are some Letters in Town that make King *James* worse in his Health than you mention it. We have an account from *Holland*, that the Conferences were to begin this day or to-morrow. We shall be glad to hear that our Proposals are well received. In the mean
time

time we press all we can the manning of our Fleet, and I hope we shall be successful in it.

Count *Wratislaw* desires I would move His Majesty that you might have Directions to communicate more freely with Count *Zinzendorf*; but His Majesty has not yet said any thing to me about it. I suppose there is already a fair Correspondence between you, but I don't know that it is necessary you should let him know any more of the Instructions sent to Mr. *Stanhope* than as they open themselves at the Conferences. I have asked Mons. *Wratislaw* whether the Imperial Minister at the *Hague* would not have Instructions to join in the Concert at the *Hague*.

We have made some further Progress to-day about the Succession, and I hope we may come to a Conclusion of it to-morrow.

I understand from my Lord *Godolphin* that you have a Payment ordered at the Treasury. I have allowed your last Bill of Extraordinaries by His Majesty's Directions. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 23. 1701.

I Received by the Messenger, early on Monday last, yours of the 6th, which gave me time to reflect on such Measures as were proper to take the next day with Mons. *de Torcy*. I have hitherto acted according to the Instructions of Mr. *Aglionby*, and now I shall do the like according to these last Instructions. I am happy enough, notwithstanding the Difficulties we have been lately under, to retain some credit at Court, and I have no reason to complain of my Reception there. If by these means I can serve His Majesty I shall have my end. What I mentioned first to Mons. *de Torcy* was to know, whether he still doubted of Lord *Melfort's* Letter. He said, not in the least, and that his Wife had owned it. The Excuse he made was, that the Confusion he was in, and its being read to him in *French*, made him think that there was something added; but that he since found it otherwise, and that thereupon he was banished. The use I made of this was to shew him that those Suspicions they had, that it was done to inflame the Nation against *France*, could no longer remain, neither could I learn any thing about such a Paper as Count *Tallard* sent, and that was cried about the Streets. I added, that if here they had a desire to continue a good Understanding, which I hoped, and did not doubt; I did assure him that we had the same, and were far from desiring a War, but expected that the Negotiation now a-foot might produce that good Effect, as to agree on such Terms and Conditions, as might be the means to quiet the Minds of People both in *England* and *Holland*, and remove from them those Dangers, which they were, and with reason, apprehensive of. That it was impossible not to reflect sometimes on what was settled and agreed to by a late Treaty, in relation to *Spain*, and that I could not think it was either for the Honour of the King here, nor suited with his Justice, to desire that we should be in a worse Condition than we should have been, had that taken place; that he very well knew the Disposition the King my Master had shewn lately in *Spain*. I asked him whether M. *d'Avaux* had made yet any Proposals; to which he answered, as he has ever done on that Subject, that he was ready to receive any from the States, &c. but that on their part they had nothing to demand, that they desired nothing but Peace, and would use all possible means towards it, and that he could wish the Conferences went on with more life. He told me also, that the King intended to send soon an Ambassador in the place of Mons. *de Tallard*, and that he had almost fixed on the Person he designed. As I avoided to come to any particulars, so he did the like; but I can assure you that their Measures are now changed. They hoped, by the marching of their Troops into *Flanders*, to have brought the States to any thing: but they find it has had the contrary Effect, and made them more firm in their Resolutions, and has also engaged

England

England to stand by them; and I do see plainly, that since we are putting ourselves in a posture of defence, they here seem to slacken, and nothing is talked of now but Peace. I am apt to think that they will be surpris'd at first with our Demands, tho' I am of opinion that they will at last consent to them, provided they see the Parliament continues to agree, as they have done hitherto, and resolve on increasing our Troops, in case there be occasion; and if we can find out some Expedient that may not seem to lessen the Greatness of this King, which is a Point that will be much insisted on here, and this I take to be very easy, in case they will leave it wholly to the King of *Spain*; and it his Interest, as well as ours, that *France* should have no power in *Spain*. It is now declared that the Elector of *Bavaria* sets out for *Germany* in a few days, and that his Troops will march also. He does not quit the Government.

I am glad Mr. *Stepney* goes for *Vienna*. I always keep Measures with the Emperor's Envoy here, and I think he is very well satisfied, tho' I acquaint him with nothing but general things.

Monf. *de Torcy* took notice to me that the Sum of Thirty-six Thousand Pounds, agreed on by a Treaty between us for Postage of Letters, and which was to be paid quarterly, was in a great Arrear; that those concerned had wrote to Sir *R. Cotton*, but had received no Answer, and he hoped I would take some care in it.

The Dauphin had, on Saturday last at night, a Fit of an Apoplexy, which lasted some time; but he is now perfectly recovered. As soon as I heard it, I went to *Versailles*, and had the honour to see him, as I have had since to compliment him on his Recovery. He was in very great danger.

I am told that one *Leigh* a reformed Officer, and one *Cranburn*, the Son of the Assassin, are gone to *Dunkirk*, and that Colonel *Parker* is missing.

The late King goes on Wednesday next to *Bourbon*, as do most of that Court. It is thought he cannot last long, and he has not yet the use of his right Hand. Mr. *Fitz-James* is gone to *Toulon*.

I shall give Mr. *Stanhope* what light I can from hence, and I should think it would be well he had my Cypher. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, March 24, 1701.

I Received by the last Post two Letters from your Excellency, the one without a date, and the other of the 6th instant. Monf. *de Ubilla*, Secretary of State for the Universal Dispatches, did at last own to me, the day before yesterday, that the Viceroy of *Navarre* had sent the Informations concerning the Person drowned in the little River of *Maya*, and that it appeared by the Contents of it, that some Louis d'Or and other Money was found upon him, as also some Clothes in his Cloak-Bag, which would be restored to my Order: but he added, with a very grave Air, that no Letter had been found. I told him that the contrary did appear but too plainly, by the divulging of the Contents of my Dispatches, which serve here and elsewhere for publick Discourse: To this he only shrugg'd up his Shoulders, replying, that he had nothing else to say on this Subject. As to what regards the gold Money, the silver Watch, and his Clothes, I will get Information of them by my Agent, and procure Restitution of the whole, of which I will give your Excellency advice.

I had yesterday the honour to give into the hands of the new King the congratulatory Letter of the States-General. Last Week some other Ministers of the second Order had also publick Audiences upon the same account.

The Post of Captain-General of the Ocean, and of the Coasts of *Andalusia*, has been given to the Marquis of *Leganes*. This is one of the best Employments of all the Monarchy: and the Archbishop of *Mexico*, and the

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Count *de Canales* have been named to succeed, *pro interim*, the Counts of *Monteleone* and of *Montezuma*, who are recalled from their Viceroalties of *Peru* and *New-Spain*. Tho' Answer was made to the Pope's Nuncio, that they thanked the Holy Father for his Good-Will, but that they did not yet want to make use of it; it is nevertheless easy to be perceived that the Unanimity betwixt His Majesty the King our Master, and the present Parliament, causes great Uneasiness to this Court. It has been resolved to raise Troops all over *Spain*, but for want of Money, all remains suspended. What employs it the most, is the finding out means to provide for the City and Port of *Gibraltar* in the *Mediterranean* or the *Straits*, by putting a good Garrison into it, provided with Ammunition and Provision: nevertheless, tho' the Duke of *Har-court* presses this Affair extreamly, every thing in general is wanting to put it in practice. The Regiment of *Bavaria* has received Orders to leave *Catalonia*, and to return into *Germany*; and it is given out here, as a sure thing, that his Electoral Highness has already made an Agreement with *France*.

The Government of *Buenos Ayres*, one of the most considerable in *Spanish America*, has been bestowed on the Colonel Don *Alonso Juan de Valdes*, who prepares himself to set out very soon, accompanied by some Engineers.

By the last Advices from *Cadiz* we hear, that the *Spanish* Squadron, commanded by the Admiral Don *Pedro Navarrete*, had appeared in sight of that Port, returning from *America*: It is very much shattered, and has lost almost the half of its Men. This Return surprises this Court, because it was designed to join the *French* Squadron of Mons. *de Chateaurenault*, who is to go for *America* in the quality of Admiral-General of *Spain*. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, March 25. 1701.

AFTER my most humble Thanks for your Excellency's two Favours, the first of the 4th instant, and the other of the 21st, just now received; I will first apologize for not owning the former: last Post being a very busy day, in order to our Conference with Mons. *d'Avaux*, which was appointed at five in the Afternoon, being just the Hour the *French* Post always parts, so that I could then give you no account of what passed there, as Mons. *d'Avaux* did the King his Master, by an Express he dispatched at twelve a-clock the same night. Whether they will think it proper to be published at *Paris* I know not, but neither of their Ambassadors here, no more than Mons. *de Quiros*, make a Secret of it, telling it to every body, and I am told it will be printed to-morrow; so that what I would have sent you new and a Secret, will come stale and publick. Inclosed you have a Copy of the Paper I delivered, which agrees in every thing material with that of the States, there being little other difference between them, besides that of the several Cautionary Towns we demand. I need not name ours, since your Excellency has seen my Instructions. Those of the *Dutch* are *Venlo*, *Ruremond*, *Stevenswaert*, *Luxemburg*, *Namur*, *Charleroy*, *Mons*, *Dendermonde*, *Damme*, and *St. Donas*. You will observe some Alterations from the first Project, and some Points in particular more enlarged upon, which you will please charitably to believe I have my Reasons for doing as well as the States. Mons. *d'Avaux*, after hearing both the Papers read, seemed greatly surprised, saying, that as he expected we would demand to have the *French* Troops withdrawn out of the *Spanish Netherlands*, so he came prepared to give satisfaction in that Article, by assuring it should be done as soon as the King of *Spain* shall have Forces of his own to guard the Country: but as to the other Articles, they were such as we could not have raised higher, if we had gained four Battles against his Master; so it was impossible he could give them any other Answer for the present, than that he would transmit them to the King, as he did the same night: he added, That it seemed as if they resolved to have War, and confirmed the Advices he had from their Minister at *Vienna*, that they have lately

lately concluded and signed a League with the Emperor. From this Charge the Deputies, every one of them, cleared themselves, by absolutely denying there was any such Treaty, and that it is notorious to all the World the manner of their State inclining to Peace, when they may have it with Security, which is all they aim at by these Proposals. Thus the matter is like to rest 'till the Orders come from *Versailles*, where possibly it may not be so heinously resented as by *Monf. d'Avaux* here. The Article about the Emperor will puzzle them the most, because no-body yet knows what will satisfy him. In short, if we must have War, I am pleased to see we neither fear it here, or in *England*; but think ourselves as well prepared for defence, as any Enemy can be to attack us. However, a reasonable Peace would certainly be better for us all. I shall know whenever the States send any Express to *Paris*, and by all Occasions, ordinary and extraordinary, inform your Excellency of all that may pass through my hands, as well as every thing else that may be worth your Knowledge; being, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

*Proposals delivered by Mr. STANHOPE to Monf. D'AVAUX
the 22d of March, 1701.*

Translated out of French.

WHEREAS His Majesty the King of *Great Britain* and the States-General of the United Provinces have, on the 25th of *March* 1700, concluded a Treaty of Partition with his most Christian Majesty, to prevent Troubles, and a new War, which they had all the Reason to apprehend from the Death of the King of *Spain* without Children, and that the principal Object of the High Contractors in this Affair was, among other things, to preserve the Peace and general Tranquillity in *Europe*, and to establish the particular Security of the Kingdoms of His Majesty: It is evident, that tho' his most Christian Majesty has thought fit to accept the Will of the late King of *Spain*, going in this manner off from the Partition, yet nevertheless His *Britannick* Majesty must not lose the Effect of that same Treaty; that is to say, the Peace and general Tranquillity, and that particular Security must be given him by some Equivalent or otherways. It is for this end that Mr. *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the King of *Great-Britain* to the States-General of the United Provinces, has Orders to propose to the Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of his most Christian Majesty to the said States, the following Points and Articles.

That his most Christian Majesty shall, in a certain time limited, as short a one as can be agreed on, withdraw all his Troops out of the *Spanish Netherlands*, without leaving any there, and that he shall not be allowed the sending any there; but that hereafter no Troops shall be kept in the said *Spanish Netherlands* (except in the Places of Security, which will be mentioned in the following Article) but *Spaniards*, *Walloons*, or those of other Subjects of the Monarchy of *Spain* exclusively, under the Oath, and in the Pay of *Spain*, and no Troops of his most Christian Majesty, directly or indirectly; yet it shall nevertheless be permitted to the King of *Great Britain*, and the States-General, to send Troops for the Defence of the said *Netherlands*, whenever they shall be lawfully required.

That for the particular Security of His *Britannick* Majesty, the Cities of *Ostend* and *Nieuport*, with their Ports, Castles, and Citadels, and all the Forts, and Fortifications thereunto belonging, shall be given up to the exclusive Care of His Majesty, all in the Condition which they now are in, with a power to put in what Garrison he pleases, either of the Troops of His said Majesty, or of His Allies, that He may desire for that use, and what Troops he shall think fit; whilst *France* or *Spain* shall not be permitted to put the least Garrison, or to build behind, or about the said Cities, Ports, and Fortresses, any other Forts, Lines, or fortified Works, or to do any thing that might cause a
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Prejudice to the guarding of the said Cities and Fortresses, and hinder its Effect.

That His *Britannick* Majesty may augment, diminish, and change the Garrisons of the said Cities and Fortresses, as often as he shall think fit, and send thither Provisions, Ammunitions, Arms, Materials for Fortifications, and in general all that may be fit and necessary for the use of the Garrisons and Fortifications, without any hindrance by Sea or by Land, directly or indirectly.

That His Majesty shall have the full Power and Authority over the said Cities, Ports, Castles, and Fortifications, where He shall have such His Garrisons and Commanders, as He shall think fit; saving, and without prejudice to the other Rights and Revenues of *Spain*, over and in the said Cities.

That, besides, His *Britannick* Majesty shall have liberty to fortify, and repair the Fortifications of the said Cities, Ports, and Fortresses, as He shall think proper; and, in general, to do all that He shall find necessary for their Defence.

That no Kingdoms, Provinces, Cities, Lands, or Places, belonging to the Crown of *Spain*, within as well as out of *Europe*, and particularly no Cities, Places, or Lands of the *Spanish Netherlands*, shall be allowed to be yielded, or transferred, nor be able to devolve, or come to the Crown of *France*, by Donation, Purchase, Exchange, Contract of Marriage, Succession by Will, or Intestate, nor by any other Title that can be; and that they shall not be liable to be subjected to the Power or the Authority of his most Christian Majesty in any manner.

That the Subjects of His *Britannick* Majesty shall keep and enjoy all the Privileges, Rights, Immunities, and other Advantages, in the Dominions and Kingdoms of *Spain*, as well within, as out of *Europe*, and by consequence also in the *Spanish Netherlands*, both in regard to their Navigation, Commerce, and Liberty of the Ports, and every thing else, which they did enjoy, or ought to have enjoyed, at the Death of the late King of *Spain*: and that thus every thing whatever, except that about which it shall be otherwise agreed in the Treaty to be made, shall be left in the Condition in which it was at the Death of the late King of *Spain*.

That all the Treaties of Peace and Commerce, and other Conventions betwixt *England* and *Spain*, shall be renewed, in the manner it shall be agreed on together, as far as it shall not be changed by the Treaty that shall be made.

That besides this, the Subjects of His *Britannick* Majesty shall enjoy in the Kingdoms, Dominions, Cities, Places, Bays, and Harbours of the Crown of *Spain*, within and without *Europe*, the same Privileges, Rights, and Franchises, as also all the Immunities and Advantages which the Subjects of his most Christian Majesty, or of any other Prince or Potentate enjoy, as well as those which shall be granted to any of them, and which they shall hereafter enjoy.

That it shall be promised solemnly, on the part of *France* and of *Spain*, that this shall be exactly performed in all these Points in general, and in each in particular.

That the Treaty, to be made on this Subject, shall be guaranteed by such Kings, Princes, and Potentates, which the one or the other of the High Contractors shall desire to do it, and that in the strongest manner they shall think fit.

All this to be done, with a Reserve, to enlarge on these Points in the Negotiation, as much as shall be found necessary, to clear up their true Sense and Intention, as also to prevent all sorts of Disputes.

The French Ambassador's Memorial to the STATES.

Translated out of French.

My Lords,

THE King has given me Leave to go to *Paris* to re-establish my Health, with Orders to leave my House here; it being his Majesty's Intention that I shall return hither in the same quality I have the honour to be in now, if my Health gives me leave, and if it pleases God that the Peace be preserved, and the Alliance remains on the foot it is now. I will hope, my Lords, from the Wisdom of the Councils of your Lordships, and your Love for your Country, that this Peace may last long, according to the Desire of the King. I could have wished heartily, my Lords, that the Condition I am in would have given me leave to go and return a thousand Thanks for the Care, full of Goodness and Distinction, which your Lordships were pleased to take of me during my Sickness. I shall always look upon it as one of the greatest Happineſſes of my Life, if I may come to be able to make it known how much I honour the Generality, and the particular Persons that compose this Illustrious Assembly. Given at the *Hague* the 22d of *March* 1701.

Signed, BRIORD.

Extract out of the Register of the secret Resolutions of their High and Mightineſſes the STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.

Translated out of Dutch.

Tuesday, March 22. 1701.

WAS heard the Report of Messieurs *Van Eſſen*, and the other Deputies of their High and Mightineſſes for Foreign Affairs, they having, in conformity, and to execute their Commissarial Resolution of the 11th of this Month, considered, and well-examined how, and in what manner they ought to proceed in the Conferences to be held with the Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of the King of *France*, about the general Peace, and the Security for this State. On which, after Deliberation, it was found good, that, by a mutual Concert with Mr. *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of His Majesty of *Great Britain*, the following Articles shall be laid before M. *d'Avaux* in a Conference.

Whilst the King of *Great Britain*, and the Lords the States-General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, have on the 25th of *March* 1700, made a Treaty of Partition with the King of *France*, to prevent all Troubles and Disorders that might happen about the Succession of the late King of *Spain*, in case he came to die without Children; and that the End proposed by the said Covenanters was, among others, principally the Preservation of the Tranquillity and the general Peace in *Europe*, and the particular Security of this State: That it is plain that, by the King of *France's* having gone from the Treaty of Partition, and by his accepting the Will of the late King of *Spain*, their High and Mightineſſes ought not to be deprived of the Effect proposed by the said Treaty; but the Design of the Treaty, that is the general Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe*, and the particular Security of the State, ought to be confirmed to them by an Equivalent, or by some other means.

Their High and Mightineſſes would for that Reason require, that to obtain this Tranquillity and general Peace, in which a good deal of their Security consists, a reasonable Satisfaction was given to the Emperor, and some Contentment, in regard to his Pretensions to the Succession of *Spain*, which were regulated by the Treaty of Partition, and that he may be comprehended, and admitted into the Treaty to be made by *England* and this State, with the

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Kings of *France* and *Spain*, and that therefore he be also invited into this Negotiation.

That the King of *France* shall withdraw all his Troops out of the *Netherlands*, in as short a time as can be agreed on, without leaving any there, or without the liberty of ever sending any others hereafter; but that for the future (excepting the cautionary Places contained in the next Article) none but *Spanish* Troops, or *Walloons*, or those of the *Netherlands* or Dominions of the King of *Spain*, belonging to him only, shall be permitted to be put there, and only such as are under a particular Oath to him, and in his Pay, and no *French* directly nor indirectly; but that if the King of *Spain* should demand any Troops of *England*, or this State, for their Defence, those shall be permitted to be put there.

That for the particular Security of this State, the Places and Forts of *Venlo*, *Roermond*, *Stevenswaert*, *Luxemburg*, *Namur*, *Charleroy*, *Mons*, *Dendermonde*, *Damme*, and *St. Donas* shall be delivered up to them, and left to their Care, with their Castles, as also the Fortifications thereunto belonging, all in the Condition they are in at present; with a Power to put, and to keep there, such of the Garrison of their own, or of their Allies, as they may require, or as they shall think fit: and *France* and *Spain* shall not be allowed to put any Troops in them, or to cause any Castles or Forts, or any other Fortresses, to be built behind, or near the said Cities and Places, or the least thing by which the Garrisons could be incommoded, or diminished in any way.

That it shall be free to the State to augment, diminish, and to change the abovesaid Garrisons in the Places above-named, as they shall think fit, and to send thither Provisions, Munitions of War, Arms, Materials for the Fortifications, and all that shall be requisite and necessary for the use of the said Garrison and Fortifications; and in the transporting what is mentioned above, as also of the abovesaid Garrisons, the Passage over the Territories of *Spain*, and on its Rivers, shall be always free, as well to go as to come, and it shall not be permitted to offer any the least Obstacle, directly or indirectly.

That the State shall have the Command and full Authority over the Cities, Places, Castles and Forts, where it shall have put its Garrisons, under such Governors and Commanders as shall seem good to them, excepting and without prejudice of the other Rights and Privileges, as also of the Revenue of the King of *Spain*, in regard of the Cities and Places above-named.

That besides, it shall be permitted to the State to fortify the said Cities, Places, Castles and Forts, and to repair their Fortifications in such a manner, as it shall think it necessary for their Defence.

That no Kingdoms, Provinces, Cities, Lands, or Places belonging to the Crown of *Spain*, as well in as out of *Europe*, and particularly no Places or Lands of the *Spanish Netherlands*, shall be yielded up, or delivered, nor devolve to the Crown of *France*, either by virtue of some Donation, Purchase, Exchange, Contract of Marriage, Inheritance by Will, or Intestate, under whatever Title this may fall, nor shall they be put in any other manner under the Power and Authority of the King of *France*.

That the Subjects and Inhabitants of this State shall continue to enjoy such Privileges, Immunities, Rights, and other Advantages in the Kingdoms and Domains of *Spain*, as well in as out of *Europe*; and thus also in the *Spanish Netherlands*, in regard to the Navigation, Commerce, Liberty of the Ports, and other things, as they have enjoyed, or ought to have enjoyed, 'till the Death of the late King of *Spain*, and that afterwards every thing, of whatsoever nature (excepting only what might be otherwise regulated by the Treaty to be made) shall remain in the Condition it was in at the Death of the abovesaid King of *Spain*.

That the Treaty made by this State with the Crown of *Spain* at *Munster* in the year 1648, as also all the other Treaties and Conventions since made betwixt *Spain* and this State, shall be renewed, or be held as such, in the manner

manner the best to be understood, so as not to be changed by the Treaty to be made.

That the Subjects and Inhabitants of the State shall, besides this, enjoy in all the Lands, Cities, Places, Towns, and Ports of the Crown of *Spain*, as well in as out of *Europe*, the same Privileges, Rights, Freedoms, Immunities and Advantages, which the Subjects of the King of *France*, or any other Princes and Potentates enjoy there at present, or which may still be granted them hereafter.

That the Execution of all the abovesaid Articles, in general, and of each in particular, shall be solemnly promised by the Kings of *France* and *Spain* for them and for their Successors.

That the Treaty to be made on this Subject shall be guaranteed by such Kings, Princes and Potentates, which one or the other of the Covenanters shall desire to do it, in the strongest manner they shall think convenient.

Reserving the Power to explain themselves further, in the Negotiation, about the abovesaid Articles, as it may be necessary for the unfolding and clearing up their true Sense, and to prevent all Differences hereafter.

That Messieurs *Van Essen*, and the other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, be desired by this, and appointed to give notice of what is mentioned above to the Count *d'Avaux*, and to enter with him in Conference and Negotiation.

Agrees with the Register, FAGEL.

Extract of the Register of the Resolutions of the High and Mighty Lords the STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.

Translated out of Dutch.

Tuesday, March 22. 1701. at Six at Night.

Messieurs *Van Essen* and the other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs having been in Conference with the Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his most Christian Majesty, according to the Commission and the Resolution reported this Morning to the Assembly, that they, the Deputies, have delivered the Contents of the abovesaid Resolution, contained in a Memorial: That Mr. *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of His *Britannick* Majesty, being come a little after the said Deputies of their High and Mightinesses, had made a like Proposition on the part of His said Majesty, and given a Memorial, agreeing in almost every thing with the Memorial given on the part of their High and Mightinesses, only with this essential Difference, that *Nieuport* and *Ostend* were on the side of His *Britannick* Majesty demanded as cautionary Places, as their High and Mightinesses had done the Places named in their Resolution. That the said Count *d'Avaux*, after having declared that he was surprised at so considerable a Demand, had afterwards undertaken to give notice of it to the King his Master, and was to wait for his Resolution upon it. The said Deputies have besides reported the Ceremonial, with which they, the Deputies, were received and conducted according to Custom, by the said Count *d'Avaux* to their Coaches, and that they had always the Hand and the highest Place given them; that they the said Deputies, being come into the Room where the Conference had been held, had sat there on an oval Table, the Count *d'Avaux* in the middle, on the side of the Door, and M. *Van Essen*, and all the other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses on his right hand; that a little while after Mr. *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of His *Britannick* Majesty, did come in, and that he had placed himself on the left hand of the said Count *d'Avaux*. That when the Conference was finished, the said Deputies had been reconducted, leaving the said Mr. *Stanhope* alone in the Chamber. Upon this, after Deliberation, their
High

High and Mightinesses have thanked the said Deputies for their pains, and for their Conduct, as they are thanked by these Presents.

Agreed with the abovesaid Register, FAGEL.

The King of SPAIN's Letter to His Majesty.

Translated out of Latin.

PHILIP by the Grace of God King of *Spain*, both *Sicilies*, &c. to the most potent Prince and Lord *William* King of *Great Britain*, &c. Our most dear Brother and Cousin, Health and Felicity. Most serene and most potent Prince, most dear Brother and Cousin: Since We are, after perfecting of Our Journey, arrived at this Our Court, and have there taken possession of all the Kingdoms and Dominions belonging to the Crown of *Spain*, We will not delay giving your Majesty notice of it, and to assure You at the same time that nothing is more desired by Us than the cultivating of a mutual Friendship with your Majesty and your Crown, that so We may by real Signs let your Majesty see the Inclination of our Mind, and that We may also in this imitate the Examples of the most serene Kings Our Predecessors, always mindful of the Welfare of the Christian World. Thus may the most good and great God bless your Life with his Grace.

*Given at our Palace of Buen-Retiro
the 24th of March 1701.*

Your Majesty's most loving Brother

PHILIP King.

JOSEPH M. de la PUERTA.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 26. 1701.

I Have received yours of the 10th instant. What I wrote concerning King *James* was a true Account, which you may judge by his intending to go to *Bourbon* on Wednesday next. He is far from being well, and is very much broke of late, so that none think he can last long. His stay at *Bourbon* will be of three Weeks. He is to be eleven days a going, and as long coming back. They intend to pump his right Arm, which he has lost the use of, and he is to bathe and to drink the Waters. They desired but Thirty Thousand Livres of the *French* Court for this Journey, which was immediately sent them in Gold. I don't know but they may advise him after that to a hotter Climate, which may be convenient enough on several accounts. In short, his Senses and his Memory are very much decayed, and I believe a few Months will carry him off.

There is no Account yet of any Propositions made at the *Hague*. I cannot see that it is in the least necessary, as matters now stand, for me to inform Count *Zinzendorf* of more than I do. He did tell me, that he had wrote to Count *Wratislaw* to desire that I might have Directions to communicate to him all Matters, and that we might take our Measures together. There is already a very good Correspondence between us, and he does tell me what Advices he has, tho' he is often mistaken. I asked him whether the Emperor's Minister at the *Hague* had received Instructions to join in the Conferences. He believed, not yet: but said, that he had advice that the Expresses of Count *Wratislaw* and of Count *Goes* were dispatched from *Vienna* on the 10th, with full Instructions, which by this time are certainly arrived. He observed one Difficulty about Don *Quiros*, and did not know how they could treat with him as Ambassador from the King of *Spain*, and I do not well understand how Mr. *Stanhope* can, unless no notice is taken on either side. I take it, that the first thing we aim at is our own Security, and that of *Holland*, and then to do what we can in behalf of the Emperor; in which point I see no Likelihood of Success, unless his Troops in *Italy*, who move but slowly, can bring the *French* to Terms. Mons. *de Catinat* goes next Monday, and he has Orders not to hazard a Battle on any account, but only to oppose the Imperial

Imperial Troops in making themselves Masters of any part of the *Milanese*. I am apt to believe that at *Vienna* they think of nothing less than the having *Flanders* and *Milan*, if not more. You will judge therefore whether it be proper that *Monf. de Zinzendorf* should be acquainted with any thing, but as the Scene opens. Not but that I think it necessary to keep up a good Correspondence, at least 'till we are certain of what they will consent to here. You know that the Pope does endeavour to accommodate Matters, but that signifies little. The Nuncio here has talked on that Subject; but they absolutely refuse the dismembering of any part of the *Spanish* Monarchy, and would in lieu of the Emperor's Pretensions assist him against the *Turk*, and so carry on a Holy War in those Parts. This is a Chimæra indeed.

I see by my Letters that the House of Commons have agreed only for Guards and Garrisons. I know that this does not exclude them from taking farther Resolutions, if there be occasion. Tho' I have some Reason to think that *France* will consent to our Demands; yet they will never do it unless they see that we are in a Condition to oblige them to it.

I have this moment received Letters from the *Hague* of the 22d. That Afternoon the first Conference was to be held, and the Deputies of the States and Mr. *Stanhope* were to deliver their Demands separately in Writing. We shall soon have an Express from *Monf. d'Avaux*.

Monf. de Boufflers is expected here every day. I am told, that they are fitting out at *Toulon* eighteen of their great Ships, tho' I hear that their arming at Sea goes on but slowly. I do admire where they find Money to do what they do, and you may think what Discontents are here, and how general.

I have received a Letter from *Monf. Schonenberg*, of which I send you the Copy. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 17. 1701. O.S.

I Have your Excellency's Letter of the 23d instant, which was read to His Majesty last Night at the Cabinet Council. What relates to the Debt due from the Post-Office is to be sent to the Treasury, and they will enquire into it, and we are copying your Cypher to be sent to Mr. *Stanhope*.

I don't doubt but Mr. *Stanhope* has sent you the Demands that were made by him and the States Deputies, on Tuesday last, for the Security of *England* and *Holland*. I believe the King will think it fit to communicate them very soon to both Houses, and acquaint them with all the Steps that shall be made from time to time in these Negotiations. What Answers are like to be returned, you will soonest understand there; but I hope they will keep in that peaceable Temper, which they make a shew of, tho' they say both the *French* Ambassadors at the *Hague* seemed offended with the Propositions, and talk'd as if nothing but War could ensue upon them. We shall provide for the worst as well as we can. We have the Satisfaction to find that Seamen come well into the Service, so that we may very quickly have a good appearance of a Fleet. The House of Commons have not yet settled to the making any other Provision for the publick Security: but that will not be delayed as Occasions arise from abroad, which are now like to multiply.

The House of Commons has been taken up these three last days with *Sheppard's* corrupting several Boroughs for procuring Elections. But the Lords have been upon another sort of Enquiry. They have found great fault with the Treaty of Partition, and perhaps will at last conclude in an Address condemning both the Substance and Form of it, and to desire that no Treaty be made for the future in that manner without Instructions, and without being approved of in Council. My Lord *Portland* finding himself close pressed in this Examination, thought it would be a Justification to him to name some Lords of the Cabinet Council that were present, a little before the Treaty was

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signed,

signed, when a Draught of the Treaty was read at his Lodgings: but those Lords remembring likewise the Objections made to it at the same time, that Defence might as well have been omitted. I hear my Lord *Portland* mention'd likewise, in a Committee of the House of Lords, as if he had proceeded in that Treaty upon some Advice I had writ to him into *Holland*; but he not producing any such Letter, nothing was said to me at a Committee of the Lords, tho' I attended them to-day concerning the Meeting above-mention'd, where the Treaty was read.

The Admiralty have an account that one of their small Vessels, coming from the Westward, and stopping accidentally in *Camaret-Bay*, has been secured there upon I know not what Suspicions. The Vessel is call'd the *St. Lo* Yacht. If you have no account from the Master, His Majesty would have you use the best means you can to be inform'd whether he be still detained there, upon what Account, and in what Manner, and then employ your endeavours to procure his and the Ship's Discharge. I hope we are not upon such Terms as to have our Ships seiz'd, there being nothing like it practis'd on our side. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, March 29. 1701.

BY the Account I gave in my last, your Excellency can expect little News hence 'till we have an Answer to our Proposals from *Versailles*, where possibly it may be thought fit, for Form sake, to consult the Court of *Madrid*, which will retard the Matter twenty days longer. In the mean time, the *French* Ministers exclaim against our Demands, as most unreasonable, and labour under-hand with particular Ministers of the State to have them moderated, and so create Jealousies among them; saying, how prejudicial it may prove to their Government one day, to have *Nieuport* and *Ostend* in *English* hands; but with little Success, as those I converse with tell me, tho' they own that great Industry is used by the *French* to spread the Poison. We want two Posts from *England*, which is a great Stop to most Affairs here in this Conjunction. The *Dutch* Troops are at last all marched out of *Namur*, which was the last Place.

I expect Mr. *Stepney* here with the first fair Wind, in his way to *Vienna*. *Monf. Briord* parts to-morrow for *Paris*, and says he shall return, if he recovers his Health, and the Peace continues. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, March 30. 1701.

I Can assure you that the Demands of the States, as well as ours, surprise them here very much; and tho' I expected it would be so, even as I had reason to think what the Propositions would be, yet when I found so many Towns demanded, and saw the manner in which they expressed it, I prepared myself accordingly to discourse with *Monf. de Torcy*. He began with exclaiming extreamly against the States, and told me that he might with great Reason say, that the Memorial they had given was insolent, and sufficient to try the Patience of the King; that it would be printed, to shew to the World the manner in which they treated him and *Spain*: yet nevertheless the King was resolv'd not to begin the War, but he would oppose those that should attack him. I endeavoured to palliate the Matter, and said, that we should have been very glad if the Propositions had come first from *Monf. d'Avaux*; that in Negotiations of this nature the Proposals seem at first extraordinary, but when they were digested, and Expedients were proposed, they came often to a happy Conclusion, which I hoped these would do: That I did believe that the King, when he accepted the Will, never intended that We nor the States

States should be in a worse Condition, in regard to our Security, than by the Treaty. That tho' by the Emperor's not signing it there remained, as might be alledged, no Obligation towards him; yet as to *England* and *Holland*, that was still in force, or at least an Equivalent; and I left him to judge if the Arch-Duke had been King of *Spain*, whether our Troops would not have been in these Places now demanded, or in most of them. That since the Question was not about dismembring the *Spanish* Monarchy, I was in hopes that any thing, that did not tend to that, would have been agreed to. I pressed him to know what they intended to propose. He said, that were the *Hollanders* intirely Masters of *Flanders*, their Demands could not be greater, and that it did not deserve an Answer, but that *Monf. d'Avaux's* Orders would be, to tell Them that the King would never consent to any thing of this nature, but would observe strictly the Treaty of *Ryswick*, renew what other Treaties were necessary, and withdraw his Troops when the King of *Spain* shall have sufficient of his own to guard his Places. He took exceptions against almost every Paragraph, as to the renewing the Treaty of *Munster*, that they should demand that, as if that Treaty was broke; that as to what was mention'd of the Emperor's being satisfied in his Pretensions, that could tend to nothing less than the dismembring of the *Spanish* Monarchy. As to that of *Munster*, he must own, that when new Treaties were made, it was usual to confirm old ones. That as for the Emperor, we could not tell yet what his Demands would be, and it was necessary to know them. I endeavoured to shew him, that it was impossible *England* could think itself safe, as the Face of Affairs was now, without having what we demanded. But it would be too tedious to relate all that passed. He did not express himself in regard to the King, as he had done in relation to the States: but I found that *Mr. Stanhope's* Memorial is as much disliked as that of the States. At last I said to him, that I did not doubt but the King's Resolutions would be very prudent, and that when I had the honour to see him next, this Matter would be farther considered, and that there might be still means found out to come to an Accommodation; which he gave me no sort of Encouragement to expect, especially in this manner. You will see that the whole matter is now publick. I acquainted *Monf. de Zinzendorf* with what had passed at the *Hague*. He waited also on *Monf. de Torcy*, where he expressed how ready the Emperor was to sacrifice his own Rights, in some measure, to procure a Peace to *Europe*, if there could be means found out to give him any reasonable Satisfaction, and that, at the same time, other Princes might find their Security. The Answer made him was of the same nature with what I had.

I did not imagine that the States, nor We should have opened the whole Matter at first, tho' I do not doubt but they had their Reasons for it, and they know best what is necessary for their Security. I am of opinion that we cannot expect much from these Conferences, and I judge so, because this Court has Measures to keep, so as not to lose the Affections of the *Spaniards* by seeming to yield to any Terms or Conditions, which they may be disposed to grant, before they are sure what will satisfy us. So on the other side I suppose we are unwilling to disoblige the Emperor, but would endeavour to satisfy him in his Pretensions. Those I think will never be granted, unless he has Success in *Italy*, and even then *France* must be brought to the last Extremity before she yields up whole Countries, for that is the Case of the Emperor. I am not determin'd but that a War might be more advantageous on all accounts than any Conditions we can now expect. But if our Design is to prevent a Rupture, the only Method must be to know first what the Emperor expects, and what would satisfy us and *Holland*, and that should be agreed upon as Preliminaries, underhand, between the Pensionary and *M. d'Avaux* without signing. Or, if His Majesty should think it proper, I might manage it, so as not to engage the King nor the States further than they please, and to know which of those Demands this Court consents to: for that they will come to Terms, is certain, but the Difficulty is in putting
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this in a right Method. I must confess that I am at a loss how to act now, since I find that the Demands far exceed what I was acquainted with. I do foresee, that when *Monf. d'Avaux* gives this Answer, the States nor *Mr. Stanhope* will not know how to proceed. The general Report here is, that *Monf. d'Avaux* is to return: but I did not perceive this by *Monf. de Torcy*, he only said, that if the States did insist on these Demands, he saw no occasion there was for *Monf. d'Avaux* staying there. He made me several Compliments, and said that he expected and hoped that this Matter would pass thorough my Hands, that the King knew how well I was disposed, and that he knew also I was incapable of making such Demands, especially in such Terms. I returned the Compliment, but said that I was not in the least ambitious of that Honour, that I should be always ready to contribute all that was in my power towards a good Understanding; That I was sorry to find we were still at so great a distance, &c.

I perceive by all their Looks at Court, that they are extremely angry: but they know too well their own Condition, to think that they are able to resent it.

King *James* has put off his Journey to next Week, by reason of the ill Weather. He continues much in the same Condition. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. *Monf. d'Avaux's* Courier returns to-day.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 20. 1701. O. S.

I Received your Excellency's Letter of the 26th instant on Tuesday last, and sent it immediately to *Kensington*. I received about the same time a Letter from *Monf. Schonenberg* and *Mr. Aglionby* of the 9th, which is in substance with what is writ to you. I believe I may send *Mr. Aglionby* Orders by next Post to come home. His longer Stay there seems to be of no use, since he meets with nothing but Neglects in that Court.

I have spoke with *Sir Robert Cotton* and *Sir Thomas Frankland* about the Demands of the Post-Office at *Paris*. They tell me, they will prepare a State of that matter to be sent you on Monday next, which they will desire to have communicated to *Monf. de Torcy*. They think the Post-Master there is in the wrong, in not giving them Receipts for the Money they pay him.

You will see by the Votes, that His Majesty has communicated to both Houses the Proposals that have been made at the *Hague*. They are to be consider'd in the House of Commons to-morrow. I can't say what may be the Result of it, or whether they will enter into Particulars 'till the Answer be returned from that Court.

The Lords have spent these three days upon the Address that has been already mentioned relating to the Treaty of Partition, and several Alterations have been made in it. One Addition has been made, which very much changes the nature of it, since it takes notice how ill the Treaty has been observed on the part of *France*; and advises, that in treating with them hereafter, security be taken for a better performance. This has been added by such as were no Favourers of the Address, and if it occasions its being laid aside, I think there will be no inconvenience in it. I hear that is under debate, and perhaps you may have the Result of it from other hands: but I am obliged to go to *Kensington*, and shall not be here when the Post goes away. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

P. S. I writ to you last Post about the *St. Lo* Yacht, Captain *Wadsworth* Commander. A Vessel is lately arrived from *Camaret* Bay: The Master says, he saw the Yacht seized on the 7th instant, and was told that they secured her as a Spy. You will use your endeavours that such pretences be not taken up for detaining our Ships.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 1. 1701.

HAVING this Opportunity, I send you by Sir *Lambert Blackwell* the Copies of some Letters that have passed through my hands by the means of *Brocard*, who has of late been more diligent, and I have supplied him from time to time with Money, else there is nothing to be done with him. You will not find much in them: But if it be true, as he assures me, that they come from *J. G.* of the House of Commons, you will see the reason why he acts as he does: tho' I rather take them to be writ by *G. G.* Brother to Sir *B.* tho' others may be consulted. They come to *T. H.* who is now Gentleman-Usher to King *James*. His Brother *B. H.* is in *England*. *Brocard*, who may be concerned also, receives them at *Paris*, and sends them to *St. Germain*s. They change the Direction almost every Post, as you will see by the three Directions I send you, tho' the Hand-writing is always the same. I have endeavoured to know how *H—s* Letters are directed to *England*, but he cannot learn this as yet, for they are put into the Post by King *James*'s Messenger; but he believes that when they go to *Bourbon*, he shall have the care of them also. What he mentions of his Patroness and her Lord, is Lord and Lady *S—*. The Correspondent never fails a Post, tho' sometimes there is nothing sent but the Proceedings of the Parliament. I would have sent you one of the Originals, but *Brocard* might then have been suspected, and the Correspondence might then be changed. You may do it better, or at least see all that comes, and I do believe you cannot but know, that if it is *J. G—s* hand, it is not counterfeited; and if you could discover whose it is, you will then know the whole Cabal; for I am told that several are concerned.

I have by the last Post acquainted you how Ours and the States Demands were received. It has so struck them here, that the King and his Ministers are at a stand, and know not what measures to take. The printing it is in hopes that then the Capitation will be paid more readily, and for the present it has that effect; for all the discourse among the *French* is now, that they would rather give any thing than that their King and Nation should put up such an Affront. The more sensible part among them say, that they have drawn this upon themselves. I am told privately by one, that a Resolution is taken to endeavour to content the Emperor, by means of the Pope, to yield *Milan* to him, and to form a Catholick League, and to turn all their Forces against *England* and *Holland*, by which means they will save the Honour of the King, since it will be done on account of Religion, and to extirpate the Hereticks. I am apt to think that there may be some such thoughts, by what Monsieur *Zinzendorf* has told me formerly. They then endeavoured to convince him, that none could gain by a War but the Hereticks, and the Catholick Religion would suffer extremely; that this King would assist the Emperor, both by Sea and Land, and make him greater that way than if he had the Succession of *Spain*. Such like discourses the Nuntio has had with him. It is certain that they will try to create Divisions between Us and the Emperor, and, if possible, between *England* and *Holland*: for they say, that *Holland* can never like that we should have *Nieuport* and *Ostend*. It will be proper that Mr. *Stepney* should have some hints of this matter, and I will take care to inform you as well as I can of what is doing here of this nature. I do believe that they will try all ways rather than consent to our Demands; and we can never again have so good an Opportunity as we have now to bring *France* to reason, provided we could engage *Portugal*, and that *England* would come heartily into a War. The bad Condition of *France* is not possible to be believed by any that does not see it, as I could satisfy you if I was in *England*. Neither can we expect but that, whatever Terms they grant now, they will break with us again on account of our Succession, which,

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as I am told privately, strikes them to the very heart. So you may judge what they would do, were it in their power. They do now intend to amuse us, by declaring openly that they will not be the Aggressors, till the Parliament is up, by which means they think we shall not be able to concern ourselves farther than by assisting the *Dutch* with our *Quota*, as we are to do by our Treaty.

The Elector of *Bavaria* has signed some Conditions with *France*, and he could do no otherwise till he has his Troops out of *Flanders*. They have here named an Envoy to reside at his Court.

I have told you my Thoughts freely, tho' they believe me here to be of another Opinion, and I must act so; else I should be informed of nothing. Besides, I am too much in their power, and the Right of Nations is but little regarded here. By the Methods we are now in, there may probably be a War declared whilst I am here.

I keep the Messenger till I have something of consequence to inform you of. I am promised an exact List of their Fleets, in what forwardness they are, and where they are designed. I am told that they intend to have several of their Gallies and great Ships at *Toulon* and at *Gibraltar*, which they are fortifying as fast as they can. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 2. 1701.

I Have but little to acquaint you with by this Post, having wrote by Sir *Lambert Blackwell*, who set out yesterday for *Calais*, and I hope he will be with you as soon as this. You will now see that they have printed the Memorials of Mr. *Stanhope* and the States, and tho' without any Reflections, yet the doing it, which is not so usual here, shews how the Court resents them, and would have the Nation do the like. I do not doubt but there will be care taken that in *Spain* they may have the same effect. I cannot think that they would act as they do, if they intended to yield any such Conditions, without which neither We nor the States can be safe, since this engages the Honour of this King yet stronger to support what he has done. I find that at Court they think that the two Memorials came from *England*, and that it was done purposely in return of the Breach of the late Treaty; and that the States themselves durst not have done it. In short, what they are most angry at, is, that they are put in mind of the Treaty, which they cannot bear to hear of; and I take it, that this is the only Foundation which we can found our Demands upon. I do not doubt but His Majesty will take His Measures, for in my Opinion there will certainly be a War before we can hope for any good Conditions. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 24. 1701. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 30th instant, which was laid before His Majesty last Night at the Cabinet-Council. It is supposed that the Answer Monsieur *d'Avaux* is to give to the Demands will be conformable to what has been told you: But His Majesty cannot expect the Communication of it from *Holland* till the *Dutch* Letters of to-morrow's Date shall arrive, which cannot be till the end of this Week. When the Answer of *France* comes in form, it will be communicated to both Houses, to know their Sentiments upon it, and I suppose they will then determine something more positively than they did on Friday last upon reading the Memorials delivered at the Conferences, which were observed to be grounded on the Treaty of Partition; and as the Lords had lately passed a Censure upon that Treaty, there

there was a Disposition in the House of Commons to do the same, and they were not for deferring it. They did not think fit then to enter into any Particulars contained in the Memorials, but left those to be considered till they knew what Answer the *French* would give to them; and therefore you find that the Address of Thanks is put into very short and general Terms, yet it was carried but by a small Majority not to have it fuller. I believe Monsieur *de Tallard* will represent that day's proceedings as advantageous to their Designs. I hear he dispatched a Courier that same Night, so that he will be before-hand in the Relation, but no certain Judgement can be made what will be approved or disapproved of till the Proposals themselves come under debate, together with the manner the King of *Spain* receives them. In the mean time, one may observe that the *French* are endeavouring to sow a Division between us and *Holland*, by insinuating to you that the Negotiations should be removed from the *Hague*, and by representing in *Holland* how unadvisable it is for them to give way that *Ostend* and *Nieuport* should be put into the hands of the *English*. But I hope our Union will still continue, as the surest means for both our safeties.

By what has been ordered to-day in the House of Commons, you will see they are resolved to make enquiry into the manner how the Treaty of Partition was carried on, which perhaps may be one ill Effect of the Animosities we have at present against one another, and therefore the Examination is put upon the same day the State of the Nation was to be considered of.

I send you a Representation of the *African* Company, reclaiming a Ship that was taken from them by Pyrates. It has been laid before His Majesty at the Cabinet-Council, and He is pleased to direct that your Excellency should interpose to procure Right to be done them. I suppose some of their Agents will attend you, to desire your Protection, and to inform you how far they have proceeded in their Claim.

Count *Boselli* has wrote several Letters to the King under Cover to my Lord *Jersey*, Mr. *Blathwayt*, and myself. The Duke of *Mantua* has lately writ to the King on his behalf. It is repeated in all the Letters, that Mons. *Torcy* says he is kept in the *Bastille* on his Majesty's account. But while matters stand thus, His Majesty has not directed any Answer to be made. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, April 5. 1701.

I Easily believe the Language of the *French* Court concerning our Memorials, because their Ministers here talk the same. Monsieur *d'Avaux* received his Courier last Saturday Morning early, and about Eleven visited me, when he owned the Courier was come, but pretended to know nothing, telling me his Letters were not then decyphered. The same Evening he demanded an Hour of the Pensionary, and told him, His Master had no other Answer to give to our Proposals than that he is ready to renew and confirm the Treaty of *Ryswick*, which is all the Security we are to expect. He then asked him, if he had communicated the same to me; who answered, he had seen me that Morning, but had not then decyphered his Letters. The other urged him again, whether he did not intend to tell it me; to which he replied, he had no Orders to do it: For if the King of *England* has any thing to demand of his Master, he has his Ambassador at *Paris*, and there is a *French* Minister at *London*, by either of whose hands it may more properly be represented than here at the *Hague*, where he has a Commission only to treat with the States. However, to try him a little further, by giving him an Opportunity, I returned his Visit yesterday Morning: but it passed all in common discourse, and he said not a word to me of the business, nor did I think it convenient to ask him,

him, after what I had heard before. Last Night, the States Deputies desired a Conference with me this Morning, wherein they gave me in form an account of all this I knew already, by a Resolution of the States, and at the same time told me, that at my Requisition, by His Majesty's Order, their Fleet of Twenty-four Capital Ships and sixteen Frigats is ready to go presently to join ours in the *Downs*; and that they hope and desire the Ten Thousand Men we are to send to their Assistance by Land, may be speedily ready also, since by the *French* Motions on their Frontiers, and other Advices, they fear they shall suddenly have occasion for them. All this I shall write this Night to *England*.

Mr. *Stepney* has been here three days, and I believe in as many more will pursue his Journey towards *Vienna*. The Emperor's Minister here is very silent.

Count *d'Avaux* has intimated by another Minister, his confident Agent, that he expects the States Resolution in eight or ten days, otherwise he must be gone. All his underhand trinketing with the Pensionary will come to nothing, nor will they ever be able to disunite us, as their design is. I know all that passes, which amounts to no more yet, than general Hopes of giving them satisfaction apart, excluding our King and the Emperor. But this I dare assure your Excellency, if we do not abandon this State, they will never separate from our Interests. A good Vote or two of the Commons will settle our Matters as we desire; and I doubt not but this *French* Haughtiness will conduce much towards it.

I have this day your favour of the first instant, and have your Cypher; when any thing offers worth the pains. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 6. 1701.

I Have your's of the 17th and 20th past to acknowledge. As to the *St. Lo* Yacht, I wonder the Captain has not all this while acquainted me with it. This makes me think he is gone. I have nevertheless wrote to him, and inclosed the Letter to one there, so that I hope to hear soon whether he is still detained. I believe I shall see Monsieur *de Torcy* to-morrow, and if so, I will take notice of it as a Report I have heard. This thing shews that they are fitting out a Fleet on some Design which they keep secret, that we may not know in what readiness they are.

A Courier is arrived here from *Portugal*, and the Envoy was on Monday last at *Versailles* with Monsieur *de Torcy*, which shews that there is something in agitation. The common Report has since been, that a League Offensive and Defensive is signed between *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*. But I am assured from very good hands, that the Courier brought only Propositions from the King of *Portugal* to this Court. Whether this is to gain time, you can best judge: but it is certain that *France* has pressed *Portugal* extremely, and it is to be feared that in this Conjunction, they will grant any thing which the King of *Portugal* can desire. I am told also, that the King of *Portugal* is not satisfied with the Emperor's Minister at *Lisbon*. Monsieur *de Zinzendorf* has took notice to me, that he heard from *England* as if he was in close Conferences with the Nuntio. I cannot think but whatever *France* intends to do by means of the Pope, that he will be the Person intrusted, since this Court takes him to be intirely against any Accommodation: but it will be transacted at *Vienna*, or at *Rome*, tho' I should think it is not practicable.

I cannot learn that any Resolutions are taken here since my last; but I fear they depend much upon our Divisions, and that the Parliament will no further concern itself, provided the *Dutch* are not attacked: so that if they can prevent the Emperor's Forces entering into *Italy*, they will have time after that to do with the rest what they please. That they take the War to be

unavoidable, none can doubt; and the Preparations go on here accordingly. I do foresee they here will not like what the Lords have done, tho' it may be right, since the Treaty of Partition was brought upon the stage. I need not tell you that I shall be under more and more difficulties, by what must necessarily pass in Parliament, and therefore I should be glad to know whether there is no thoughts of my return. You see in what readiness Monsieur *de Tallard* is.

King *James* is gone for *Bourbon*. He lay last Night at the Duke of *Lausane's* House at *Paris*, where one Mr. *S——on*, Uncle to the Lady *Sh——th*, kissed his hand. He is lately come from *England*, and lives generally in the North. His pretence for coming hither is to wait on that Lady home. She has been some time in *France*, and is of the same opinion.

The inclosed will shew you, that what was formerly said of Monsieur's protesting against the late King of *Spain's* Will, in order to save his Right, is true. I have with some difficulty procured one in print, but they are not yet publick. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, April 7. 1701.

THE last Post brought me no Letters from your Excellency, and I lay the failing on the pressing Occupations with which your Excellency is probably loaden. The Day for the publick and solemn Entry of the King, is fixed for the 14th instant. Preparations are making for Bull-Feasts, and other suitable Diversions, after it.

Whatever Resolutions this Court has taken for the raising of Men for the Army, as also for marching into *Andalusia* all the Cavalry that remains in *Catalonia*, and above all for putting Men and Ammunition into the City of *Gibraltar*, these Precautions remain unexecuted for want of Money; the Finances are generally grown so much worse. This has obliged the Court to renew the Orders to the Receivers and Managers of the Domains of the Crown not to pay any Assignations whatsoever either for Pensions or for Debts; and this Decree says in expresse Terms, that what is produced by this suspension is to prevent the designs of the Enemies. The Emissaries publish here, that the War is infallible, probably to oblige *Spain* to make its last Efforts; but their Weakness answers not to the Zeal and Animosity, which is the more set against *England* and the States of the United Provinces by reason of the Union betwixt those two Powers, and grows stronger in spite of those who would shake it.

Monsieur *du Casse* set out last Week for the Court of *France*, to make a Report of the Conferences he held here with some Ministers of the Council of the *Indies*, as I sent word by my former. Nevertheless, it will not be possible for the Court of *Spain* to prepare this year the Men of War designed to join the *French* Squadron, which it is assured will sail for the Security and Defence of the *Spanish West-Indies*, against the Enterprises of those Powers, who, in case of a Rupture, might molest them. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Zell, April 8. 1701.

THE same Reason which your Excellency is pleased to give in respect of silence, must likewise plead my Excuse for not writing frequently of late, being unwilling to trouble your Excellency with empty Letters. I am very much obliged to your Excellency for the honour of your's dated

X x x x

April

April 1. which I received this day, and shall endeavour to satisfy your Excellency in what you desire every way, as well I can.

As to the King of *Denmark* and Duke of *Holstein*, they will jangle to Eternity, in spite of all Treaties: but I hope they are not yet disposed to fight. They will quarrel a great while without coming to blows. The *Danish* Troops are at sale by Inch of Candle; the Emperor, *France*, and the States bidding for them, and who gives most will carry it; but nothing is yet concluded. That Body of *Danes* now in *Saxony* does still greatly disquiet this Neighbourhood, and should it fall back to join with *Wolfenbuttel*, *Zell* and *Hanover* would be extremely exposed. Those two latter Courts do all the Service they can to the Publick, being perfectly well intentioned. Five thousand Men are already marched from hence towards *Holland*, and some other Regiments are ordered to be in a readiness: but these poor Princes cannot make Brick without Straw.

The great Restrictions tagg'd to the Limitation of the Crown in the House of *Hanover*, diminishes the Value of it. However, I am glad the Nation has done itself Right in the first place, and likewise Justice to this Great Family. I have occasion this day to write to the Electores, and shall not fail to put your Excellency's Compliments for her Electoral Highness into my Letter; which shall be confirm'd by word of Mouth as soon as I return to *Hanover*. I have often had the Honour of discoursing her Highness upon your Lordship's Subject, and find that your Person is not unknown to her. If your Excellency thinks fit to write to her Electoral Highness upon this occasion, I will take care to present it, and to accompany it with such Expressions as your Excellency shall direct.

I came hither to hunt the Stag with this good old Duke: but we have most wretched Weather for it hitherto. I heartily wish your Excellency constant Health and Prosperity, and am, &c.

JAMES CRESSET.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 27. 1701. O.S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letters of the 1st and 2d of *April*. The first by Sir *Lambert Blackwell*, the other by the Post. Both of them have been laid before His Majesty, with the Advices inclosed. When you send any Informations of that kind, His Majesty would have them put into a Paper apart. I have taken the best care I can about the Addreses, and hope some use may be made of it.

We have no Letters yet from *Holland* to tell us what Answer is come thither to the *English* and *Dutch* Demands: but we are told, that no other Answer would be given than that the Demands were sent to *Madrid*. If this be so, it may help to satisfy us that *Monf. Tallard* is quick in dispersing his Advices.

You will find both the Lords and Commons have censured the late Treaty of Partition in their Addreses to His Majesty, which I suppose will not be disagreeable News to that Court, since they care so little to hear of it. My Lord-Keeper carried the Lords Address alone to *Kensington*, and there found two or three of the Lords in waiting to make shew of a House. The Speaker of the House of Commons went with greater Attendance.

The Envoy of *Savoy* was with me on Monday last, to tell me the Orders he had received from his Master, to make a Protestation in the name of the Dutches of *Savoy*, for asserting her Right to succeed to the Crown after His Majesty and the Princess, and he would have known in what manner it would be most agreeable to His Majesty that it should be communicated to the Parliament. I told him, that His Majesty took no Cognizance of what was doing in either House of Parliament, nor concerned himself about it till it was presented to him by both Houses in a Bill, or by either House in an Address. I

told

told him further, as from myself, That Protestations of this nature were things unheard of here, and what no body would advise him to; that I could understand it no otherwise than protesting against an Act already past about twelve Years ago, which excludes all Papists from the Succession here, and is now a Fundamental of our Constitution. Notwithstanding this, I hear he has sent his Protestations in a Letter directed to my Lord-Keeper and our Speaker, which was delivered by two of his Gentlemen and a publick Notary, who is to make an authentick Attestation of the Delivery of it. Mr. *Harley* tells me, that suspecting what he brought, he did not open his Letter, but told them he was no other than a private Person out of the Chair. Whether my Lord-Keeper has observed the same caution, I know not. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 9. 1701.

I Have only to acknowledge the Receipt of yours of the 24th past. This Morning *Monf. de Torcy* came to *Paris*. I mention'd to him the *St. Lo* Yacht, which he knew nothing of, but he has promised to make Inquiries into that matter. I have not heard one word from the Captain, so that I conclude he is no longer there. An Accident has happened off of *Dieppe*, which they wonder at here, and *Monf. de Tallard* has Orders to complain, of one of our Men of War's firing at a *French* Fisher-Boat.

All I could perceive by his other Discourse was, that he thought the Proceedings in *England* somewhat extraordinary in the manner they treated the *French* King: but he said also, that the King of *England* was not much better used. I find they intend not to take the least notice of any thing that passes in Parliament, neither will they do any thing to provoke the Parliament, and I do not doubt but *Monf. d'Avaux* has Orders to give the best Words that are possible. In the mean time they make all the Alliances they can; and as to what I wrote in my last concerning *Portugal*, I am now satisfied that a Treaty is signed, which *Monf. de Torcy* did not disown. Upon my saying to him that I supposed it was a Treaty of Neutrality, he did not explain it further than by saying that in Case of a War, the King of *Portugal* was obliged *de fermer les Ports aux Anglois, & aux Hollandois*, to shut his Ports to the *English* and the *Dutch*.

The *Venetian* Ambassador has received an Express, and has pressed to have an Audience, but the King was at *Marly*, so that *Monf. de Torcy's* coming to *Paris* was on that Occasion. I hear it is to assure the King, that the Republick is ready to declare itself against the Emperor; and I do the rather believe it, by the Account we have of a Dispute in *Istria*, between a *German* Regiment and the Magistrates appointed to take care against the Plague. They entered the *Venetian* Territories, and have plundered, &c. The Governor there assembled a great many of the Country, and has committed the like Hostilities on the Lands that belong to the Emperor. The *French* are entered into the State of the Duke of *Mantua*, and seven Battalions are actually in his capital Town.

I have inclosed a Copy of *Monf. Schonenberg's* Letter, as also of one the Pope has wrote lately to the Emperor. I am sorry we are likely to fall into such Heats against one another. It is what will please here. I do not expect any Good from hence, and I wish I may be mistaken.

As to the Representation of the *African* Company, when any of their Agents do apply to me, I will assist them in all I can. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 31. 1701. O.S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 6th of *April*, N. S. which has been laid before His Majesty at the Cabinet Council; but I have no Directions to send you upon it, and His Majesty can't yet think of your being recalled. I don't hear that *Monf. de Tallard* talks of going away yet, tho' it is so long since he took his Leave. He keeps no Correspondence with me, but I suppose he does with some others that he makes better use of. He has left his House upon the ending of the Quarter, and is gone into Lodgings. I hear he has sent for his Present, so that he is expeditious for a Journey, but may however stay here while the publick Affairs hang in Suspense.

Count *d'Avaux* having returned his Master's Answer to the Pensionary, His Majesty has communicated it this day to both Houses of Parliament, by a Message in Writing; the Substance of that which was delivered to the Commons is, That *Monf. d'Avaux* told the Pensionary, his Master had no other Answer to return to them, but that he was ready to renew the Treaty of *Ryswick*, and that was all the Security they were to expect. If the *English* had any thing to demand from *France*, they might do it by your Excellency in *France*, or by *Monf. Tallard* here: but he had no Commission to treat with any besides the States. With this Message were communicated two Resolutions of the States, and a Memorial of *Monf. Geldermalsum*. One of the Resolutions was only a Communication of the *French* Answer to Mr. *Stanhope*, the other Resolution and Memorial of the Envoy express'd their having made their Ships ready, part whereof would have Orders to join the *English* Fleet; and they put His Majesty in mind of sending them the Succours agreed on in the Treaty of 97, the Case now existing that they were threatned with a sudden Attack. His Majesty having laid the whole Matter before the House, and looking upon the Negotiations at the *Hague* as at an end, He desires their Advice in a Matter of so great Weight and Consequence to the Security of *England* and *Holland*, and the Peace of *Europe*. The House have resolv'd to take this into Consideration on Wednesday, and I hope their former Firmness will revive again.

The inclosed is the Post-Master's Answer to *Monf. Pajol's* Demands, which should have been sent last Post if I had had it time enough.

You will hear from other hands what long Debates we had on Friday and Saturday about *Kid's* Business, and the Partition-Treaty; and we have had something again of the latter this day, and are like to have more of it tomorrow.

We have near forty Ships of the Line of Battle now in the *Downs*, and their Number will increase daily. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

Propositions made by Count SCHLICK, the Emperor's General, to the Elector of COLOGN at Bon, on the 10th of April 1701.

THE Count of *Schlick*, General of the Armies of his Imperial Majesty, being arrived here on Thursday last in the Evening, had the next day about Noon an Audience of his Electoral Highness; in which, as also at the Conferences held with him afterwards, he said, that his Imperial Majesty having indispensable Reasons to pursue his Right to the Monarchy of *Spain* by all possible means, he wished that his Electoral Highness would make no Engagements with the Powers that dispute it with him; and that in Case of a Rupture he would unite himself with his said Imperial Majesty and his Allies, as being thereto incited by two powerful Motives, of which one is the strict Alliance which the Electoral House of *Bavaria* has with the House of *Austria*, and the other is the general Interest of all the Empire, from which the

the Crowns of *France* and *Spain* will withdraw the *Netherlands* and the Dutchy of *Milan*; and it being to be feared, that by their Union they may put themselves in a Condition to subdue in time all the rest of the Empire, if the Princes, that are Members of it, don't make use of this Opportunity to hinder it, *France* being not yet so terrible as it would seem to be.

He has represented besides, that his Imperial Majesty, being not any more engaged on the side of *Hungary*, he may employ all his Forces against that Crown with more Success than ever; and that on the other hand the *English* and *Dutch* will make their last Efforts to help his Imperial Majesty in all his Designs; as well to revenge themselves of the *French* their despising the Treaty of Partition, as to maintain their Religion, their Liberty, and their Commerce: And if his said Electoral Highness would enter into Concert with his Imperial Majesty, and with them, he had Orders to agree with him, in their Names, about all the Advantages and Conditions he could desire, promising to himself a favourable Resolution upon this, whilst the Question was about the Liberty of *Europe*, and chiefly about that of the Princes of the Empire, who otherwise ran the risque of losing for ever their Sovereignty, and of being treated hereafter as formerly the Bishops of *Toul*, *Metz*, and *Verdun* have been treated, and very lately the Bishop of *Strasburg*. He adds, that if, against all Expectation, his Electoral Highness would not come over to his Reasons, it was to be feared, that when the Standards of the Allied Powers should be raised about his Country, they could not have that regard for him, as if he had united himself with the said Powers.

This is the Substance of what was represented: but Count *Schlick* was very much surpris'd, when, in the place of receiving the favourable Answer which he expected, he was told, That his Electoral Highness being intrusted with his Arch-Bishopricks and Bishopricks, he will always prefer their advantage to that of his House and Parentage, when they cannot agree the one with the other; and that if he was to act according to the Nearness of Blood, it would be considered whether the Princes of *France*, descended from the Dauphiness his Sister, are not nearer to him than the Arch-Dukes of *Austria*, for the which he shall nevertheless always retain all imaginable Veneration: That, as to what regards the Empire, he assured his Imperial Majesty that he will never separate himself from it, when the *French* and the *Spaniards* shall presume to attack the Rights of the Empire; but as they have hitherto protested, that they will own to belong to the Empire all that the Kings of *Spain* have ever owned, it did not seem to him that they have room, on the part of the said Empire, to disapprove their Conduct in this respect, nor to meddle with the particular Affairs betwixt the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon*, nor to disturb the common Repose. That the Circles of *Franconia* and *Suabia* have, upon that foot, found it convenient to associate themselves, and to invite several other Circles and Princes to join with them, in order to be able to preserve the Tranquillity they enjoy since the last Peace, and of which his most Christian Majesty promises to let them taste the Sweets; that if the Court of *Vienna*, as the furthest off, does not at present find the *French* Forces formidable, these Countries, who are more exposed, have the more reason to apprehend them; that when heretofore *Spain* was still united to the other Allies, his most Christian Majesty did nevertheless alone resist almost all the Powers of *Europe*; that besides this, if his Imperial Majesty is not any more obliged to keep up an Army against the *Turks*, he will be obliged, according to his Projects, to send one into *Italy* as considerable as that which he has had in *Hungary*: That it must nevertheless be owned, that by the Union of the *English* and the *Dutch*, with many Protestant Princes and States, great Armies can be raised, but that it had been seen in the last War what the Catholics, and especially the Ecclesiasticks, had got by it, of which there remain still dismal Marks in the Countries of *Cologne* and *Liege*; that the King of *England* was a Prince of an unsettled Health, and the *English* Nation inconstant, and at present almost exhausted; that the *Hollanders* had been always for War, and

that afterwards they have been the first to treat separately, to the great disadvantage of their Allies; that, from all times, the Country of *Liege* had found advantages in a Neutrality, and that the only time it had declared itself, it had been so ill treated, that the States had heartily prayed his Electoral Highness to procure them, by all means, in this Conjunction, a good Neutrality; and if that Name is odious in the sight of the whole World, they may content themselves with the Effect. That for the rest, his Electoral Highness has thought fit to unite himself to the other Ecclesiastical Electors, at an Assembly held at *Lobusten*, where they had resolved to join with the associated Princes and Circles, with a design that his Imperial Majesty shall not be less satisfied with this than he shewed to be with the Association of the two above-mentioned Circles: and that, lastly, his Electoral Highness, trusting to the Equity and Justice of his said Imperial Majesty, cannot believe that he will begin to use ill the Electors and other Princes only for the Care they take for the Preservation of their Dominions, and their not engaging in a Quarrel, which does not hitherto concern the Body of the Empire.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, April 12. 1701.

HAD I not received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 8th instant, I should have nothing to write to-day; for after the *French* King's trivial Answers to our Memorials, 'till we hear from *England*, as we have not yet, here must necessarily be a great Silence. I expect, with great Impatience, to hear the good Effect it produces, both with King and Parliament, and observe with great pleasure, that the *French* understand our Constitution every day less than other. Their entering *Flanders* produced the first vigorous Vote, and I doubt not but the present Contempt of our Proposals will give an Occasion to another, as little to their Satisfaction. Three Thousand of the *Lunenbourg* Troops are arrived in our Frontier Garrisons, and Two more are in march. From Ten to Twelve Thousand *Brandenburgers* will be in a Week in the Country of *Cleves*, ready when we want them. The Squadron of *Amsterdam*, eight Capital Ships, with Tenders, is already failed to join our Fleet, and the rest to make up Twenty-four will follow in a few days; by which forwardness on their part, this State thinks they ought suddenly to have from *England* the Succours stipulated, as there is no question but they will, either in Men or Money: but such is the Opinion and Experience they have of our Bravery, that they had rather have a Body of *English* than any Money in their room.

We want our *English* Letters. Mr. *Stepney* parted hence three days ago for *Vienna*. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 13. 1701.

I Have received yours of the 27th past, and then the Answer of M. *d'Avaux* was not yet come; but you will find it such a one as I have already acquainted you with. As for the Declaration, that they must have the Resolution from *Madrid*, they are now more ingenuous than to say the same thing. I do confess that Mons. *de Torcy* did then mention to me, that that which related to *England* was more proper to be done here, or by M. *de Tallard*: yet I did not in the least doubt but they would have made some answer to Mr. *Stanhope*. It is plain that their Design is to put an end to the Negotiation at the *Hague*, and to seem to treat separately with *England*, *Holland*, and the Emperor, and to create at least Jealousies, if they do not obtain their ends; for I am satisfied that now they will yield nothing 'till they see the Success of this Summer. I believe you will be of the same opinion, when I shew you the Posture of their Affairs at present. I can assure you, that the Ministers here

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take it for granted, that His Majesty is for War, and that the Parliament is absolutely against it, and will never consent to any thing of that nature, provided *France* acts in the manner it does, and so as not to provoke them; for which reason they declare, that they will be only on the defensive here, tho' at the same time their Preparations shew they can act otherwise if there be occasion. All the King's Household has Orders to be ready by the 20th, and by the end of this Month they are to march for *Flanders*, and leave only some Detachments here, as is usual in time of War.

The Treaty with *Savoy* is signed, and the Ratification arrived late on the 11th at night. The Duke of *Savoy* is Generalissimo, and is to furnish Eight Thousand Foot, and Two Thousand five Hundred Horse, for which *France* and *Spain* pay him Fifty Thousand Crowns a Month.

As to *Portugal*, I was rightly informed that it was only a Project of a Treaty which the Courier brought, and which the King of *Portugal* had in a manner approved of: but they take it here to be as good as signed, since the King of *France* has done it, and a blank Ratification was sent with it to *Lisbon* for the *French* Minister there, who has a Power from the King of *Spain* to do the like.

The *Venetian* Ambassador has had his Audience, and I am told that the King is now satisfied with the Republick, which he was far from before; and tho' they seem to keep up a Neutrality, yet in effect *France* has all it can desire. The *French* may possess themselves at present of all the *Venetian* State, excepting some few Places where they have their Troops; and the *Venetians* are to furnish them with Provisions, which when done, *Verona* and *Vicenza* will also have *French* Garrisons. All this is to be managed so, that the Emperor may not take Offence; for they will alledge that this could not be prevented, and had the Emperor's Forces been there first, they would have acted in the like manner in relation to them.

Here is also arrived a Courier with News, that eight *French* Battalions are in *Mantua*, and that the *French* were marching towards the State of *Venice*; and that the Emperor's Forces, which were advanced towards *Italy*, cannot proceed any further for want of Magazines, and until they are otherwise supplied, which I believe is but too true. The *French* will have so much time to post themselves, that those, who know that Country, think it morally impossible for the Emperor's Troops to enter into *Italy*.

In *Germany* the three Ecclesiastical Electors (as it is reckon'd here) will keep up a Neutrality, as also some other Princes in the Empire; and as for the Elector of *Bavaria*, they do not much doubt of him, and there are Reasons to believe he will make the best Terms he can.

All *Europe* observes the Motions of *England*, and whilst we are undetermined, other Princes must submit to *France*. You may judge now whether the Propositions of the States, or any part of them, will be agreed to. As for ours, they will never admit of them, especially whilst they have such an Opinion of the Parliament. How well grounded it is, I cannot tell. There may probably be some secret Article between *France* and the Duke of *Savoy* in relation to our Succession; and by the Protestation which his Minister would make in *England*, there is no doubt but *France* is at the bottom of it. I did hear some time ago, that the Duke of *Chartres* had done the like here, but I thought it not very material, and it is kept private at present, for the same Reason which induces them to seem not to be angry with *England*. It is well if we do not feel their Power, when matters are settled on a better foot in *Spain*.

Mons. de *Tallard* has Leave to come away, and no other Ambassador will be named. Mons. de *Torcy* told me, that he understood that the King would be on the 18th of next Month in *Holland*, so that it was not worth the while. I made him no sort of Answer on that Subject; and it is plain, that 'till matters are adjusted, they never had any Intention to send another, which I assure you there is no Thought of 'till next Winter.

I do not find as yet, that *Monf. d'Avaux* has Orders to return; but I am more convinced than ever, that what is to be done, ought to be done at the *Hague*, since the States are the most concerned. I cannot see that my being here can be of any Use or Service to His Majesty; and tho' there is nothing, which I would not do to comply with my Orders, yet I could wish heartily that His Majesty would think it proper to recall me, in order to take my Leave in the usual manner. A Resident, or an Envoy, would do as well here, if any Minister is necessary, and I am of opinion that would have some good Effect here: for, if they will then treat at all, it must be at the *Hague*.

The Reason why the *St. Lo* was stopp'd, was because the Captain was founding the Port, as *Monf. de Torcy* says several of our Ships have lately done. He believes she is gone, but I have desired Orders may be sent to let her go, if she is not, which he has promised me. I have heard nothing of the Captain.

Monf. de Boufflers is here, and reviews the Guards this day, and on Monday next he will return to *Flanders*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, April 15. 1701.

I Cannot tell whether *Monf. d'Avaux* has made any other Proposal from this Court, tho' I believe he has not, by reason I hear nothing of it here; and my Opinion is, that they do not intend it, but they will see this Summer over before they yield to any Conditions; so that I take it that the Negotiation will be soon ended, unless the States make new Demands, which will, I fear, have as little Effect as the last. I have no account yet from *England* of what Resolution the Parliament has taken upon the Answer of *M. d'Avaux*.

The Duke of *Savoy* has signed the Treaty with *France*. He is to furnish Eight Thousand Foot, and Two Thousand Five Hundred Horse, and to be Generalissimo. For this, *France* and *Spain* pay him Fifty Thousand Crowns a Month.

The *French* have Eight Battalions in the Town of *Mantua*, and are marching towards the State of *Venice*, which they will possess themselves of also. This will make it difficult for the Emperor's Forces to enter *Italy*. They talk much here of a Treaty signed betwixt *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*, and that in case of a War, our and the *Dutch* Ships are not to be admitted into the Ports of *Portugal*. As much as I can learn here, it is only signed by *France*, and they take it for granted, that the King of *Portugal* will do the like. I cannot think it possible that *Portugal* should ever declare against us, since our Trade is of considerable advantage to them, and they are much in the same Situation the States are in, as to the danger from the Union of *France* and *Spain*, neither will they be able to defend their Ports in case our Fleet goes thither. It cannot be long before the Scene opens, and then we shall see who and who is together. Notwithstanding that they reckon here upon a Neutrality on the *Rhine*, yet they think it convenient to send their best Troops that way. All of the King's Household, excepting some Detachments as usually guard the Person of the King in time of War, are to march by the end of this Month into *Franche Comtè*. I have nothing more, but to assure you that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A Letter from Mr. ROBETHON to the Chapter of ORANGE,
dated London, April 5. 1701. O.S.

Translated out of French.

Messieurs,

I Received your Letter only two days ago; it was upon the brink of being lost, because it was not in the Packet of *Monf. de Lubieres*. It is true, that whilst my Lord *Portland* was at *Paris*, Mr. *Blissen* and I put the Money of

of the *Perecation*, from which the Ecclesiasticks of the Principality of *Orange* were exempted during the *Interregnum*, to the List of the Damages demanded from *France*: but the *French* Ministers did absolutely reject that Article, refusing to account with us for the Money that was not entered into the Coffers of the King their Master: so that when *Monf. de Vrybergen* went into *France*, he had Orders to speak no more about that Pretension, from which we desisted absolutely, so that this Money is by no means comprehended in the Sum which his most Christian Majesty has paid to the King for several Damages. This is what you may be sure of, and of which *Mr. Vrybergen*, who is still here, will bear witness. It is true, that the *French* Ministers demanded that the Ecclesiasticks should not be molested for the Money of the *Perecation*, of which his most Christian Majesty had exempted them during the *Interregnum*, which my Lord *Portland* promised verbally, and you know that the thing has been faithfully executed. But as to what relates to the One Thousand three Hundred and Sixty-four Livres, I must tell you that this does not come within the Case of the Promise of my Lord, which must be a Restraint within the time of the *Interregnum*; whereas this Sum, having been paid from the year 1682, when his most Christian Majesty had nothing to say at *Orange*, has been well paid, and returned unjustly by the greater Force of an Order of the Council of State obtained two Years after.

You send me word that you have wrote to the Nuncio only to interceed with my Lord *Manchester*, but I can assure you that that Lord has sent me a Memorial, which was delivered to him on this Subject by *Monf. de Torcy*, and which contains general Complaints in the name of his most Christian Majesty, as if in prejudice of the Promise made by my Lord *Portland*, the *Perecation* was demanded of you for all the time of the *Interregnum*. My Lord *Manchester* has informed *Monf. de Torcy* of the nature of the thing, and having explained to him that this was not the Business in question, but that it regarded the Sum of about One Thousand five Hundred Livres, which you had paid before the *Interregnum*, he has made that Minister comprehend the Justice of the Suits commenced against you on this account, which will be continued at the Parliament of *Orange* in the next Month of *May*. I could wish with all my heart that, before that time, you would accommodate that little Affair in a friendly manner with the Consistory; it is but a small Concern for each Ecclesiastick, and you will come off cheaper by this Agreement than by a Law-Suit; besides, this Conduct will contribute to make His Majesty favourable to you in your Pretensions to the Nomination to the Benefices. I am, with Respect, Messieurs, your most humble and most obedient Servant,

J. ROBETHON.

The Attestation of Monf. VRYBERGEN.

NOT having had any Order nor Instructions to insist on the Affair of the *Perecation*, for the Reasons here above mentioned, I declare by this, that this Article was not in the number of those, in which the King of *France* has agreed to indemnify His Majesty. Done at *Kensington* the 3th of *April* 1701.

VRYBERGEN.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 16. 1701.

I Have none of yours to acknowledge, and little to acquaint you with by this Post. The only News at Court is, that the Elector Palatine has let the King of *France* know that he is ready to sign the Treaty of Neutrality with the rest of the Princes in *Germany*, as to his Person and his Country; but as for his Troops, he is obliged by a Treaty to leave them at the Disposition of the Emperor. If all that they say here is true, the Emperor is like to make War by himself.

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The *Spanish* Ambassador at *Vienna* is obliged to leave the Court, as you will see by the inclosed, and in what manner it was done. He is better treated than the Count *d'Aversperg*, tho' at the same time the Emperor shews his Resentment.

Notwithstanding that they rely so much here on a Neutrality on the *Rhine*, yet they think it convenient to send all the Horse that belongs to the King's Household into the *Franche Comté*, in order to march thither if there be occasion.

For my part, I cannot tell what we are all a doing. It is certain, that either the Emperor or *France* is extremely deceived, by what I can learn from M. *de Zinzendorf* here, who believes he shall soon have Orders to leave this Court. Monf. *Simeoni*, whom I have seen in *England* from the Elector of *Bavaria*, is here. He has not yet been at Court, and it is said that he comes only for his Diversion, Count *Monasterole* continues still here, and avoids being seen with any of the publick Ministers. What he is transacting, and if any thing, a little time will shew. I am impatient to hear how the Answer of M. *d'Avaux* is liked with you. I have your Orders, which you will find by the annexed Paper in Cypher. The Prince of *Wolfenbuttel* is come, and has been to wait on my Wife. I intend to return his Compliment soon. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Paper inclosed in the foregoing Letter.

Paris, April 16. 1701.

I Am assured that there are often large Instructions sent from this Court, which are communicated to Members of Parliament, those whom they call here well inclined to a Peace, and so consequently for the Good of their Country. They insinuate to them, that the *French* King has no Design against *England*, neither will he ever promote the Interest of the P. Prince of *Wales*, unless the Nation shall approve of it, on certain Terms and Conditions; that their Liberties are in danger, if ever they admit of an Army again in *England*. They also tell them, how all *Europe* is for *France*, and what Treaties they have made; that the Emperor cannot have the least hope of Success: they observe here Measures, which they are desired to take, and are resolved, whatever is done in *England*, not to resent it. In order to this, there are now several Emissaries in *London*, and I am told of one Mr. *Poussin*, who, during the late War, was in *Italy*, and afterwards at *Constantinople*, and lately an intimate Friend of the Cardinal *de Bouillon*, whose Proceedings he discovered to the *French* King, and was forced to fly from *Rome*. It is not long since he disappeared from hence. Whether he appears publickly at *London*, I cannot tell. It is thought, that if there be occasion, he may assume a Character from the *French* King.

This is so nice a Matter, that if I had it not from one, who can have no Interest to deceive me, I should take no notice of it. The like is doing in *Holland*.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, April 19. 1701.

I N answer to your Excellency's favour of the 15th instant, the Count *d'Avaux* has yet made no new Proposal here, nor do we expect any, unless our House of Commons comes about to make some vigorous Votes suitable to their beginning, which we are in hourly hopes of receiving by the Letters we expect. I the less expect any Proposals from this State more moderate than the former, since the Resolution and Unanimity I observe in this People to be satisfied with nothing less; having heard this Day from a considerable Man at *Amsterdam*, that provided *England* gives them only the Succours stipulated by the Treaty of 1674, as they cannot do less, they are content to hazard the War against *France* and *Spain*, in conjunction with the Emperor and

and their *German* Allies. Monsieur *Briord* is very pleasant in his Complaint of our King's Power over this State, as if his Master had not a much greater over the whole Monarchy of *Spain*. We believe not a Word of the Treaty Monsieur *d'Avaux* brags so much of, as Defensive and Offensive with *Portugal*, and that in case of a Rupture, neither *English* nor *Dutch* Ships will be received in any Ports of that Kingdom; tho' he shews his Master's Letter for it, with this Inference thereupon, *Et que le Roy d'Angleterre songe à cette heure s'il voudra faire la Guerre*, and now let the King of *England* think whether he would make War. I am just going to the Pensionary. If I learn any thing there worth writing, I will add it in a Postscript. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 20. 1701.

I Was yesterday at *Versailles*, but did not receive your's of the 9th instant till my Return. All the discourse I found there was concerning my Lord *Portland*, but not a word of the Ten Thousand Men we are to send to the States, and how the Parliament has acted therein. I can assure you, tho' it is hard to be positive in any thing here, that this King is resolved, on no account, to yield any thing further to the States than what Monsieur *d'Avaux* has already declared. He has received some check for his having visited the Pensionary since, and has Orders to come away on the first notice. They say here, that he presses it very much himself. I believe he will stay to see whether the States will make any other Proposal, or answer to what he has said, after what has passed in *England*. They begin now to think here, that Prince *Lewis* of *Baden* is to command upon the *Rhine*, and they are drawing their Forces that way, to be ready in case it should be so; tho' they hope still for a Neutrality. The Duke of *Burgundy* is to command there, and Monsieur *de Villeroy* under him. Monsieur *de Boufflers* returns in a few days to his Command in *Flanders*. They judge here, that in case the Imperialists cannot enter *Italy*, that all their Forces will march to the *Rhine*. Monsieur *de Coetlogon* is sailed with seven Men of War, and some other Ships with Arms and Ammunition for the *West-Indies*, with several reformed Officers. There is another Man of War at *Brest*, which is to follow him. Monsieur *de Torcy* gave me the inclosed Letter, telling me it was for the King; and that Monsieur *de Tallard* being come away, he desired I would take care of it. I asked him from whence it came, little imagining that it was from *Spain*. He said it was from the King of *Spain*, to notify his Accession to the Crown, which was all that passed on that subject. Then I spoke to him about the *St. Lo* Yacht, and some Merchant-Ships which are still depending. He said that he had wrote to *Brest*, and had no Answer yet; and then he took notice that several of our Men of War had attacked their Ships, and he read to me the Paper I send you, which I desired he would let me have as a Memorandum, as he did. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Paper sent with the foregoing Letter.

Paris, April 20. 1701.

I Did not see I could have any great occasion to keep the Messenger longer. As for the Account of the *French* Fleet, how mann'd, and where design'd, I have it not yet, neither have I seen the Person for some time, tho' I suppose I soon shall. It is one whom Mr. *Prior* knows, and by his directions I have let him have Money, and I must give him more when he brings it. I send you another of those Letters. Whether *Brocard* is negligent, or that they are stopp'd in *England*, I cannot tell, this being the last I have had. I am apt to think that he whom Monsieur *de Tallard* leaves, is this *Poussin*.
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He is certainly in *England*, and it is kept here a great Secret. This Court relies now much on the Advices they have from the Lord *Middleton*, and Measures are thereon concerted. I know he said to a Person of Quality, who told it me again, that he knew exactly what passed, and that *England* would not engage in a War against *France*. I cannot but tell you that it is said privately, that *French* Money is stirring amongst you, as well as at *Vienna*.

There are more Regiments marching to *Dunkirk*, but as long as we have our Fleet out, I will suppose there is no danger of a Descent.

I cannot tell how His Majesty will dispose of me, but my Wife, who is with Child, and who will not be able to take such a Journey after a Month more, intends for *England*. If by that time I am not recalled, I must desire a Yacht for her.

The *St. Germans* People are very insolent, and the *French* very cold to all the *English*. The late King has the Gout at *Bourbon*, so cannot drink the Waters.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Frankfort, April 21. 1701.

YOU will have heard at how short warning His Majesty has commanded me to *Vienna*. Thus far I am come on my way thither, and should have made more diligence, if the Pensionary and Count *de Goes* had not judged it necessary that I should visit on the way up the *Rhine*, the several Electors, (who are my old Acquaintance) and observe what Effect Count *Schlick's* Remonstrances may have had on them. I found the Elector Palatine as zealous as the Emperor and We could wish him; but as I have advanced into the Empire, I have less reason to be satisfied with their Proceedings. I forwarded to Mr. *Stanhope* a Project of Neutrality which *France* proposes to several Princes and States in the Empire, desiring him to send your Lordship a Copy. It has made great progress. The two Circles of *Franconia* and *Suabia*, (who, during the late War, were esteemed the Bastions of the Empire) have been the first to enter into these Engagements, under the Name of Associations. The Elector of *Bavaria*, (whom we have reason to suspect) was to sign it yesterday. The Elector of *Cologne* owned to Count *Schlick*, that he was engaged three Weeks ago. He has received Money from *France*, and so has his Brother *Bavarian*, with which this last is now raising Ten Thousand Men, and the other Five Thousand. The Commissions were dealing about as I passed through *Bonn*. The Elector of *Treves* means well, but his Situation obliges him to follow this ill Example, and he told me he intended to send a Deputy to *Frankfort* on the 30th of this Month, to sign the said Association with the other Princes of this Electoral Circle of the *Rhine*, at the Invitation of the Elector of *Mentz*, who is sole Director of this Circle. The two Directors of the Upper *Rhine*, are the Elector Palatine, and his Brother the Grand Master, (as Bishop of *Worms*.) They hitherto seem firm to the *Austrian* Family; but standing by themselves, are likely to prove but of little use. By this unexpected Defection in the Heart of the Empire, it will be impossible for the Emperor to offend *France*, tho' he were never so well disposed and prepared for it: He has no Sphere left for Action; the Door is barr'd against him from *Austria* to *Dusseldorp*, and were he in a condition to force a Passage, his doing it would be contrary to his Coronation-Oath and the Constitution of the Empire. Thus has *France* found an easy way to fence itself against any Attack this way, and I give the Game for lost. A strange thing, that the Emperor should be so negligent of his greatest Interest, as not to make sure of these Princes, when he could not but foresee the want he should have of their friendly Assistance. This News, I fear, will give no great Encouragement to our Parliament to declare for an Empire so divided in itself.

I find here an Assembly of Ministers from what they call *Les Princes Correspondents*, who are also Caballing against the Imperial Court upon account of the Ninth Electorate, which Dispute ought certainly to be remitted to the ordinary Course of the General Diet, or to be suspended till a more convenient Season. The new Dignity of the King of *Prussia* will in all appearance create a new Disturbance in the Empire; for the three Ecclesiastical Electors and *Bavaria* will not consent, for fear of losing their Rank.

In this unhappy Conjunction am I again to appear in the Empire, where I believe we shall not find many Friends. I wish the Parliament would put the King in a condition not to want them.

To-morrow I shall try to catch the Elector of *Mentz* at his Hunting-house eight or ten Miles from hence, in my way to *Nuremburg*, and from thence proceed with the best diligence I can for *Vienna*; whence I shall regularly acquaint your Lordship with what passes, and think the most agreeable part of my present Employment is to find it both my Duty and Inclination to correspond exactly with your Lordship, and to give you frequent Assurances of my being with the greatest Esteem, &c.

G. STEPNEY.

P.S. I overtook the Electress of *Bavaria* this Morning on the *Rhine*, two Miles below *Mentz*, with a Fleet almost as numerous as that now in the *Downs*. It is not to be conceived the Expence and Trouble she occasions. Famine behind us stalks, and dismal Desolation.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, April 21. 1701.

I Have received the Letter which your Excellency has been pleased to honour me with, as also the Copy of the two Propositions made by His Majesty the King our Master, and by the States of the United Provinces, for the maintaining of the Peace of *Europe*, and for the mutual Security of *England* and of the said Republick. An extraordinary Courier sent by the Court of *France*, and bringing the news of the said Propositions, arrived here two days ago. The Duke of *Harcourt* communicated them immediately to the Ministers, treating them as ridiculous; and as the Dependence of this Court on the good pleasure of *France* is an absolute Submission, they did immediately declare, that they resigned themselves intirely to all that the most Christian King shall please to determine in this and in every other Affair in which this Monarchy interests itself. His most Christian Majesty has caused to be demanded that he be furnished from hence, the soonest that is possible, at the least with two Millions of Crowns, for the most urgent Necessities of *Italy* and the *Spanish Netherlands*. This Demand astonishes the Ministers, as if they were struck with a Flash of Lightning, knowing that it is absolutely impossible to furnish even the fifth part of that Sum, tho' they should have a good space of Time to find it in; for in effect, and without exaggerating, the Finances of *Spain* are in so deplorable a low Ebb, that if the Court of *France* was well informed of it, they would perhaps not engage to support a Monarchy which has not any Vigour left to contribute towards it; it being certain, that, in case of a Rupture, all the Weight of the War, as well by Land as by Water, will fall wholly upon *France*, and will swallow up at least a good Third of its Revenues. All that *Spain* will be able to do this year, will be to equip two Men of War, and to send into *Andalusia*, for the Security of that Province, about two thousand five hundred Men, as well Horse as Foot.

On Thursday last, the King made his solemn and publick Entry: There was but one Triumphal Arch, and all the Magnificence was but very middling. The Bull-feast, which was to have been given yesterday, has been deferred for eight days. The Duke of *Harcourt* is fallen dangerously ill.

I expect still an Answer to the Letter I have caused to be wrote, by a Person of confidence, to one of his Friends in *Navarre*, about the Silver-Watch and the Gold-Money which was found about your Gentleman of the Horse; and as soon as I shall have received that Answer, I will let your Excellency know it, praying you to be persuaded, that I shall omit no due Diligence, &c. We have here to do with People, who think they may do any thing in the present Conjunction, and who even sometimes take a pride in insulting the Queen. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, April 22. 1701.

CONTRARY to all Expectation, this Place, that was lately supposed to be the busiest Stage in *Europe*, affords nothing now to write; for since Monsieur *d'Avaux's* cold Answer to our Proposals, here is a dead Silence, the *French* making no new ones, nor we receding a tittle from the former.

The late Votes of the House of Commons to enable the King to make good to this State our Treaty in 1677, has put a new Spirit into this People, and two or three more such may make your Court not so backward to a Negotiation, nor think our Proposals so unreasonable.

Having nothing to write of Affairs of this Country, I believe it may not be unacceptable to your Excellency to know what your Court is doing in *Germany*, whence I received last Post the inclosed Project, proposed to the *German* Princes; the thing is real, not to be doubted of, and the Offers are so tempting and specious, that it is to be feared some of them will *donner dans le panneau*. Mr. *Stepney* has been at the Courts of *Dusseldorp* and *Bonn*, and thence is gone directly for *Vienna*. Monsieur *Spanheim* is now here, and I am told by his Master's Minister here, is designed for *England*, to reside as Envoy Extraordinary there, after Count *Dhona* has made the great Compliment of Ceremony. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 23. 1701.

I Have none of your's to acknowledge, the Monday Post being not yet come, neither was Monsieur *de Tallard* arrived last Night. It is now declared, that the Duke of *Burgundy* is General on the *Rhine*, and Monsieur *de Villeroy* commands under him. The rest of the General Officers are to be named to-day. I am told there is an account come from *Germany*, which is kept very secret, but which made them resolve to have an Army on the *Rhine*, and their Troops are marching that way. I know it is expected here, that the Emperor will soon put out a Manifesto, which will be in effect a Declaration of War, and till then the Duke of *Burgundy* is not to go. The Duke *de Chartres* has the King's leave to accompany him.

This Morning the *Venetian* Ambassador was with me, having Orders to communicate to me from the Republick, (His Majesty having no Minister at *Venice*) that their Ambassador *Mocenigo* has received his last Orders, and would depart suddenly for *England*. He enlarged much on the great Honour and Veneration the Republick had for His Majesty, and how much they desired His Friendship; and that he was also to communicate to me their Resolution of keeping religiously an exact Neutrality, in the present Conjunction, between the Emperor, *France* and *Spain*; that he hoped such a Resolution would be agreeable to His Majesty, of which he did scarce doubt; and that as I had always shewn a good Disposition towards the Republick, I would communicate this in the best and properest manner I could. He desired I would send their Resolution for a Neutrality likewise to the

the States-General, he having received Orders to desire that also of me. This shews that they begin to think it their Interest to be well with the King, and I believe they would be glad the *French* were not so near them. I am of opinion, that on the approach of the *Germans*, the *French* will endeavour to possess themselves of *Verona* by some means or other. It is certain that none but the King can procure the Liberty of *Europe*, which never was in more danger.

I have inclosed Monsieur *Schonenberg's* Letter, and tho' I never fail writing to him by every Post, you will see that he does sometimes not receive my Letters. I wonder that he takes no notice of the King of *Spain's* notifying his Accession to His Majesty, which makes me believe that they wanted first an Approbation here.

I hear nothing of the Captain of the *St. Lo* Yacht. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the STATES-GENERAL.

Translated out of French.

High and Mighty LORDS,

Paris, April 25. 1701.

I Received yesterday a Visit from Mr. *Pisani*, Ambassador of *Venice*, which procures me the Honour to write again to your High and Mightinesses. That Minister told me, that he had Orders to communicate to me the perfect Neutrality which that Republick was resolved to observe religiously, in this Conjunction, betwixt the Empire, *France* and *Spain*, that so I might send notice of it to the King my Master, and to your High and Mightinesses; flattering themselves, that this Step would be agreeable to *England* and *Holland*. I take the liberty to acquit myself of this Duty; and am with all the Veneration in the World, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 14. 1701. O.S.

THE Messenger arrived last Saturday Morning, and brought me your Letters of the 20th instant, which were immediately sent to *Hampton-Court*, and read last Night at the Cabinet-Council, with the Letter from the King of *Spain*, giving notice of his Arrival at *Madrid*, and his having taken possession of the *Spanish* Crown, and concludes with Assurances of Friendship, and living in good Correspondence with *England*, as his Predecessors had done. The Letter is dated the 24th of *March*.

His Majesty has not yet resolved when you shall be recalled; but a Yacht will be ordered for my Lady whenever you shall think it necessary: you need only intimate whither you would have it sent, and at what time.

The Complaints put into your hands by Mons. *Torcy*, were delivered last Night to the Lords of the Admiralty, (at the Cabinet-Council) who will enquire into those Matters, and rectify any Abuses committed. We hear nothing of the *St. Lo* Yacht, she is therefore still detained, and I suppose the Commander must be kept close confined, since you can't hear from him.

We have no Account yet from *Holland* what they think of our last Advice. However, they seem in *France* to be displeased with Count *d'Avaux's* Visits to the Pensioner; yet I hear he continues them still, and I suppose they will hit upon some Expedient for present Quiet.

I had rather you should hear from other hands what I have been compell'd to by an Order of the House, and in what manner it has been push'd to Impeachments against my Lord *Somers*, Lord *Orford*, and Lord *Halifax*; but I hope they will not be prosecuted. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 27. 1701.

THERE are no more of the General Officers yet named, but only Monsieur *Rose*, who is going for *Flanders*; and in case of a War, he will be made a Marshal of *France*. Monsieur *de Tallard* arrived here on Sunday last, and went immediately to *Versailles*. I am told that the Courtiers were very shy to him; but the case soon altered, for the next day the King gave him the *Cordon Bleu*, and the Government of *Foix*, to sell it, which, as is computed, will bring him at least two hundred thousand Livres. We have not met, tho' we both have attempted it. I find he had good reason to press for his Return; and it is thought he will be also on the *Rhine*, under the Marshal *de Villeroy*.

I sent a Letter for the Captain of the *St. Lo*, inclosed to one at *Brest*, who desires no more such Commissions. The Governor hearing this Person enquired after him, sent for the Man, and took the Letter; saying, that he ought not to meddle with things that did not concern him. In short, he has sent me word that the Yacht is in the Harbour of *Brest*, and the Captain a close Prisoner. I shall press it again to Monsieur *de Torcy*, and I am also sending one to *Brest*, &c. whom I can trust, to see what is doing there and in other Ports. There are other Cases in which I have obtained Orders that were actually sent: but now I am informed by the Persons concerned, that they are suspended at present. I shall do what I can for them.

I have your's of the 7th and 10th instant. As for my coming home, His Majesty can best judge of it; so I shall say no more of it. Monsieur *Poussin* was at first Secretary to Monsieur *de Rebenac* who was in *Spain* and *Italy*. He was at last Secretary to the Cardinal *de Bouillon*, and had fifteen thousand Livres from the *French* King as a Reward for the Services he did when he was with the Cardinal. They say that his Appointments in *England* are twelve thousand Livres.

I cannot hear that Monsieur *d'Avaux* is like to make any other Proposal to the States; but on the contrary, it is said that we may perhaps soon see him here. They still continue here their Resolution of being upon the Defensive. The Court is at *Marly*, and the Duke *de Chartres* is not to go to the *Rhine*, as it was first resolved. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, April 30. 1701.

I Have very little to acquaint you with from hence. The General Officers are not yet declared, and the reason of it is, that there are such Numbers of them, the half of which cannot be employed, and now the King will not name them till the War is certain. They think here that the Neutrality of the Princes in *Germany*, and on the *Rhine*, will prevent the Emperor's doing any thing there. Of these, the Duke of *Wolfenbuttel*, the Prince of *Saxe-Gotha*, and the Elector of *Cologne* have already signed, and it is thought that the Elector of *Bavaria* will; but for six Months only. I do not doubt but you have had the Project some time since, else I would send it you. They say here, that the States, when they see how little the Emperor can do, will be glad of any Security, rather than engage in a War; and they seem here not to yield any thing further than the Treaty of *Ryswick*.

Monsieur *de Tallard* has been with me, and seems extremely satisfied with his Majesty's Expressions to him, on his departure. He has the like Reason here, tho' it is thought that he expected to be a Marshal of *France*. I have spoke again to Monsieur *de Torcy* concerning the *St. Lo* Yacht. He gives me fair Words and Promises, but I cannot tell why the Captain is not released. I shall repeat it again next Tuesday.

I

I have spoke to Mr. *Pajot* on the Letter you sent me from Sir *Robert Cotton*, &c. He is ready to produce Certificates, and also Persons at *Lyons*, to prove that our Letters for *Italy* are not stopp'd, and that when they come from *England*, they are made up in a Packet for *Italy*; and he has satisfied me, that he can have no advantage in doing otherwise. I do remember that I complained once upon what Sir *Lambert Blackwell* wrote to me about it, and he did then take care of it. He cannot help it, if Merchants in *England* will inclose their Letters to others here. I send you the Account of what is due, and cannot see what can be done further than to prevent it for the future, or to come to a new Treaty. Monsieur *de Torcy* has not since mentioned it to me, neither have I to him. Monsieur *de Tourville*, who was said to be dead, is alive; but they think he cannot live.

The Monday Letters are not yet come. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. GREG.

S I R,

Paris, May 2. 1701.

I Was very glad to hear that His Majesty had honoured you with the Title of Resident. It is a sign that He is well satisfied with your Conduct.

The news that the King of *Denmark* is like to give the States his Troops, is very welcome: but I am still in fear that is only done to bring this Court to greater terms, and there is lately a Courier dispatched to Monsieur *de Chamilly* with Orders to prevent the conclusion of the Agreement, if it is possible. I shall be impatient till I hear that it is actually signed, and by which means a good Correspondence between Us and *Denmark* may be established for the future, and I cannot see but it is that Crown's Interest.

We hear from *Madrid*, that the Duke of *Harcourt* lies dangerously ill, without much hopes of recovery. It will be a great loss here.

The Negotiation at the *Hague* seems to be at a stand. This Court still declares that they will not begin the War. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. STANHOPE.

S I R,

Paris, May 2. 1701.

I Am obliged to you for the Project of Neutrality, which I have heard of long ago, tho' I had never seen it. It is certain that several of the Princes have signed it, if not the whole Empire. I have heard of Mr. *Stepney*, who confirms me more in that Opinion, and the inclosed will shew you what passed between the Elector of *Cologn* and Count *Schlick*. This Court has ways to engage all Sides, even to their own Destruction. I wish there were any hopes that the States could procure a good Barrier. Perhaps the Pensioner and Monf. *d'Avaux* may hit on some Expedient, since some Letters from the *Hague* mention something of that nature, whether well-grounded, I cannot tell. Here is a Courier arrived from *Madrid*, who brings an account, that the Duke of *Harcourt* is dangerously ill, and that there were little hopes of his Life. The Opinion here is, that the *Spaniards* have not given him fair play. The News from *England* of so many Impeachments will have surprised you. For my part, I do not know what we are doing; I fear this is not the way to secure *Europe* from Danger. There is a Courier lately sent from hence to *Copenhagen*, and this Court does all it can to prevent the King of *Denmark's* giving his Troops to the States. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 21. 1701. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 27th instant, which was read last Night at the Cabinet Council. The usage of the *St. Lo* Yacht is thought very extraordinary, that the Commander should be made a close Prisoner, and *Monf. Torcy* pretend to know nothing of it. It is no less surprising to see it resented, that an *English* Ambassador should make Enquiry after His Majesty's Subjects. A *French* Officer, who came about the same time to view the Dock-Yards at *Chatham*, found a better Treatment there; tho' he was not allowed to satisfy his Curiosity, yet he was dismissed with Civility; and the like may very well be expected in this Case, when we hope there is no Intention of a Rupture on either side. His Majesty would have you therefore press again *Monf. de Torcy* that both the Vessel and the Captain may be releas'd; and on our side Care will be taken to redress the Abuses complain'd of, as soon as the Admiralty shall be able to find out by whom they were committed.

You know the two Houses are adjourn'd till Wednesday. His Majesty stays at *Kensington* till Friday. After that, He will chiefly reside at *Hampton-Court*. He will only come to *Kensington* on Wednesdays, and stay till Friday, unless extraordinary Occasions require his coming at other times.

I don't doubt but you hear directly from *Holland* that the States have pass'd a Resolution, containing their Thanks to His Majesty for the Care that has been taken of complying with the Treaty of 77, and to assure His Majesty that they will not act separately from the Interest of *England*. His Majesty intends this shall likewise be communicated to the House of Commons. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

The King's Letter to the King of SPAIN.

Translated out of Latin.

WILLIAM the Third, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c. to the most serene and most potent Prince the Lord *Philip* the Fifth, by the same Grace, King of *Spain*, both *Sicilies*, *Jerusalem*, *India*, &c. Arch-Duke of *Austria*, Duke of *Burgundy*, *Brabant*, and *Milan*, Earl of *Hapsburg*, *Flanders*, *Tyrol*, &c. Our most dear Brother and Cousin, Greeting. Most serene and most potent Prince, Brother, and Cousin, We have received the Letters of your Majesty of the 24th of *March* last past, which were for many Reasons very acceptable to Us; as well because they gave Us notice of your happy Arrival in your Kingdom of *Spain*, of which you have taken Possession, taking upon you the Government of the Dominions thereunto belonging, as that you have assured Us, that your Majesty has a mind that the very ancient Friendship and Correspondence betwixt the two Crowns shall remain inviolable. We have indeed willingly embraced this Opportunity to congratulate your Majesty on your happy Accession to the Crown of *Spain*, and to certify to you how much We value you, and how great a Desire We have that your Majesty should know, that We will, with great Application, do all that We can, that the mutual Union, subsisting betwixt Us, by Treaties and Friendship, be closer united, and that the Advantages of both Nations may every day be more and more promoted and flourish, which we hope will also end in the Advantage and Prosperity of all *Europe*. For the rest, We recommend your Majesty to the Care and Protection of Almighty God. Given at our Palace of *Kensington* the 17th of *April*, in the Year of the Lord 1701, and the Thirteenth of Our Reign. Your Majesty's most loving Brother and Cousin,

WILLIAM R.

JA. VERNON.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, May 3. 1701.

Mons. *d'Avaux* having for some time complained he was neglected here, and the States said nothing to him, therefore he expected Orders to return: for this Reason, and to satisfy their own People, they desired, and had yesterday a Conference with him by their Deputies, where they expressed their great Inclination to Peace, and in order thereto, of continuing their Conferences with his Excellency jointly with me. As to the Conferences, he asked what they were to treat upon. They answered, they had given him Proposals in Writing, to which they had as yet no Answer. He said, they knew well enough how disagreeable these Proposals were to the King his Master, and that he could not treat with them on that Foundation. They assured him they had no others to make him, and if he had any for them, they were ready to hear them; but he declared he had none. And for my being at the Conferences, he said he consented, provided it should be only to assist the Pretensions of the States, but to propose or demand nothing on the part of *England*, since your Excellency was His Majesty's Ambassador at *Paris*, and there is a *French* Minister at *London*, by either of whose hands those matters may be more properly transacted; that his Commission was only to the States, and that he had received a Reprimand for receiving the Paper of my Proposals at our first Conference. This Morning he sent to acquaint the Pensionary that he had received his Orders to return immediately; but for my part I do not believe it, for every thing this subtle Gentleman says or does, has always a different Intention from what appears at first sight. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

Extract of the Register of the Resolutions of the STATES-GENERAL, &c.

Translated out of Dutch.

Monday, May 2. 1701.

WAS heard the Report of Messieurs *Van Essen* and the other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, having by virtue of, and to comply with their Resolutions and Commissions of various Dates, examined with Attention how they ought to proceed, in order to continue the Negotiation undertaken for the Preservation of the general Peace, and other Securities for this State: and having deliberated about this, it was found good and resolved, That it shall be represented to Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his most Christian Majesty, in a Conference, that their High and Mightinesses have always been inclined, as well by Inclination, as by Interest, to the Preservation of the Peace and the general Tranquillity; that being in this Disposition, they have proposed to his Majesty a Negotiation, to treat about means by which the general Peace and their particular Safety might be confirmed. That his Majesty having approved of this Proposition, and the said Negotiation having followed upon it, their High and Mightinesses had hoped that it would have had a good Success, and been long ago brought to a good end, and they wish for nothing so ardently as that it may still be done. That nevertheless since the last Conference, held above a Month ago by the Deputies of their High and Mightinesses, and by Mr. *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of His *Britannick* Majesty, with the said Count *d'Avaux*, there have indeed been some Discourses on this Subject betwixt the said Count *d'Avaux* and the Counsellor Pensionary *Heinsius*: but that their High and Mightinesses see with Concern that things are but little advanced by these means. That their High and Mightinesses strongly desiring, that the End for which the said Negotiation was began, that is, the Preservation of the general Peace, and their particular Security, may be attained as soon as possible; judge that it would there-

therefore be more proper, that the said Negotiation was continued on the same Foot as it began with. That for this End their High and Mightinesses are inclined, and ready to recommence the Conferences, by their Deputies, together with Mr. *Stanhope*, who is authorised on the part of His Majesty of *Great Britain*, with the said Count *d'Avaux*, in Case he be also authorised, and that he has the same Inclination to it: and that their High and Mightinesses declare still, That their Intention and their only Aim consists in the Preservation of the Peace, and the general Tranquillity, and in the strengthening their particular Security; and that with this, they desire with all imaginable Eagerness to preserve the Honour of the Friendship of his said Majesty, for whom they have always had, and shall always retain, the greatest Veneration. And Messieurs *Van Effen* and the other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, are by these prayed to enter into Conferences with the said Count *d'Avaux*, for the abovesaid End, and to make their Report concerning it to the Meeting. And an Extract of this Resolution shall be sent to the Ministers of their High and Mightinesses residing in Foreign Courts, and it shall be signified to them, that His *Britannick* Majesty having given notice to their High and Mightinesses by His Envoy Extraordinary, Mr. *Stanhope*, that His Majesty was resolved to take proper Measures with their High and Mightinesses to procure them their Security; and that for this purpose the said Envoy was empowered to continue, in Concert with their High and Mightinesses, the Conferences which may tend to that purpose, in the manner which shall be judged most efficacious; their High and Mightinesses have taken the abovesaid Resolution, to pave the way for the recommencing the Conferences concerning the Preservation of the general Peace, and their particular Security, to shew also their Inclination for Peace, and for the Preservation of the publick Tranquillity.

B. VAN WELVELDE.

Agrees with the abovesaid Register, F. FAGEL.

*Extract of the Register of the Resolutions of the STATES-GENERAL
of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.*

Translated out of Dutch.

Tuesday, May 3. 1701.

Messieurs *Van Effen*, and the other Deputies of their High and Mightinesses for Foreign Affairs, having by virtue of, and to comply with their Resolution and Commission of the 2d of this Month, been yesterday in Conference with the Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of the most Christian King, have reported to the Meeting, That they the Deputies having represented to the said Count *d'Avaux* the Contents of the abovesaid Resolution, he seemed to have expected some new Propositions from their High and Mightinesses; and that, as for the rest, he had answered, in substance, that he was willing to permit, in case the Negotiation that was began did continue, that Mr. *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary of His *Britannick* Majesty, should assist at the Conferences to second the Interests of this State; but not to talk there about the Affairs of His *Britannick* Majesty, whilst he the Count *d'Avaux* was not authorised to treat about the last mentioned Concerns: but that if His said Majesty had any Proposals to make on that Subject, that should be done in another place. Their High and Mightinesses having deliberated about this, have thanked the said Deputies for their Trouble, and it has afterwards been found good, and understood, That notice should be given of this to the said Mr. *Stanhope*, and that for that end an Extract of this Resolution, as also of that of yesterday, should be given him by the Agent *Rosenboom*, and there shall besides an Abstract of the said Resolutions of their High and Mightinesses be sent to M. *Van Heemskerck*, Extraordinary Ambassador from

from their High and Mightinesses at the Court of his most Christian Majesty, for his Instruction, and to make use of where it may be necessary.

B. VAN WELVELDE.

Agreed with the abovesaid Register, F. FAGEL.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 4. 1701.

I Received yours of the 14th past on Sunday last, and that of the 17th the next day. I have acquainted Monf. *de Torcy* that His Majesty has answered the Letter of the King of *Spain*, as soon as he received it, and that it would be sent to *Madrid*. The *Spanish* Ambassador being at *Versailles*, I took notice of it to him; but I found he did not know so much as that the King of *Spain* had wrote to the King. He was very well pleased, and I suppose now the same Correspondence that was formerly between us will be renewed. The Emperor's Minister soon heard what had passed. He was surprised, and said it would discourage the Friends of the Emperor. I told him it was no more than what the States had done, that he saw how the Empire itself was divided, which he says is otherwise than is represented here, and he gave me some Proof of it: but as for the Elector of *Cologne*, it is out of dispute, as you will see by the inclosed, which I have from good hands; and I am told that Monf. *Rose*, who has been named some time ago for *Flanders*, is to command the Troops of that Elector. If Princes will put themselves into the Power of *France*, let what will be the Consequence, provided others do not suffer.

I think I have at last obtained the Orders for the Release of the Captain of the *St. Lo* Yacht, and I hope you will soon see him. All they pretended to have against him was, that he was founding the Port, which I told M. *de Torcy* all Ships did when they came into Harbour; but he said it was otherwise than so.

I have inclosed a List of all the General Officers. The Princes of the Blood are extremely discontented that none of them are named. The King has forbid the Duke of *Chartres* to go as Volunteer. The Duke of *Maine* will in effect command in *Flanders*, where there will be Camps formed very soon.

The Marechal *de Villeroy* sets out for the *Rhine* on the 10th instant. Monf. *de Villars*, the French Minister at *Vienna*, is soon expected here. All my Letters from the *Hague* say, that Monf. *d'Avaux* talks again of coming away, and they say the same thing at Court. I wish some Expedient may be found out before he comes; but by all the ways I can learn, I very much fear it. Our Divisions in *England* seem not to contribute towards it. Here is a Courier arrived from *Spain*, with News that the Duke of *Harcourt's* Life is despaired of, and the Discourse here is that, he is poisoned, he having been the only Person that made all the Reforms there.

I must desire you will give notice to the Merchants, whose Effects were taken by *Du Bart* on board the *Dantzick* Ships, that I have done all I can in their Affair. That the Deputies, who were in hopes, after their Submission, to have obtained the several Ships, &c. which the *French* had taken, were told, after a long Discussion of that matter, that the King does oblige them, over and above their Loss, to pay Two Hundred Thousand Livres for the Damages which Monf. *de Polignac*, and others of the *French* have sustained, and also to make good to the *English* what Effects they had on board those Ships. They give the Town three Months to pay the Money, and in case it is not done, they intend to take other Measures. The Deputies have no Instructions of that nature, and are going away. They hoped to have had the Liberty of taking leave of the King, and also Recredentials; but this was denied them. This is but little Encouragement to our Merchants, but I cannot see what more can be done for them here. I have since seen the

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Deputies,

Deputies, who owned to me that this was their Answer, as *Monf. de Torcy* had acquainted me before. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Paris, May 4. 1701.

P. S. The Person, by whom I had these Letters, which I sent you, has been very ill for three Weeks, but is abroad again. He says that he has heard but of one that is lately come. I can assure you that they are sent by the common Post. The Mark is always upon them, and I will not fail to send you the next I have. He tells me, that they are from him of the House of Commons, and that *H.* has told him so. I have only his word for it. The obliging People to shew all Letters will make it impossible to serve the King as one ought, without being exposed to the Humour of a Party. I wish it, and I will not doubt but their Intentions are for the Good of their Country.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 24. 1701. O. S.

I Have received your Letter of the 20th, and have laid it before His Majesty. I have sent *Monf. Pajot's* Paper to *Sir Thomas Frankland*, and as soon as I can meet with him, I shall shew him that part of your Letter which he is concerned in. I send you the Lords of the Admiralty's Answer to the Complaints given them from that side. You will see the Care they have taken to get Information of these Matters.

You will receive from the Office the Address that has been made to His Majesty by the House of Commons, with His Majesty's Answer; which being reported to-day, the House have ordered their Thanks to be returned for it. There seems to be a very good Disposition to go on with raising the Supplies that have been voted. The Committee voted yesterday three Shillings in the Pound to be raised on Land, and the House have this day agreed to it; and I suppose they intend to lay another Shilling upon Land, towards discharging of Exchequer Bills.

His Majesty removes to *Hampton-Court* to-morrow; and will hereafter lie in Town only Wednesdays and Thursdays. There has been a Consultation of four or five Physicians this Morning at *Kensington*, to consider what they would advise His Majesty for the Preservation of His Health. The Swelling in his Legs does not increase; but I hope they will put His Majesty into a method how it may abate.

The King has sent Directions to *Mr. Methuen* to propose to the King of *Portugal* his entering into a defensive Alliance with His Majesty, and the States-General. By his Answer we shall see whether he be too far engaged another way. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, the 5th of May 1701.

I Have received the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write on the 17th of *April*. As to the Affairs here, the last Letters from *England* have very much increased the Fierceness of those, who make their principal Security consist in the Misunderstandings among the Members of the Parliament.

The Princess of *Savoy* has been declared future Spouse to the new King, and the 8th of this Month is appointed for his Majesty's taking the usual Oath to the Deputies of the States of the Grandees and the Orders of Chivalry.

Tho' the Ambassador of *Venice* has notified to the King the Resolution of his Republic about the Neutrality, it is nevertheless feared that she will make but a weak Resistance to the Imperial Troops.

The

The Marquis of *Leganes* is on his departure to go and do the Function of Captain-General of the Sea-Coasts of *Andalusia*. The Duke of *Harcourt* lies at the point of Death.

The Vice-King of *Navarre* has wrote to me, that he had found upon the Body of Mr. *Jolly*, Gentleman of the Horse to your Excellency, Thirty-seven Pistoles in Gold, a Silver Watch, and a Silver-gilt Snuff-Box; but that what was found in the Cloak-Bag was only fit to be given to the Poor, and that I might dispose of it all. I have given Orders to my Correspondent to take up the Thirty-seven Pistoles, the Watch, and the Snuff-Box, which your Excellency will be pleased to dispose of: and in the mean while I send here inclosed to your Excellency the Receipt for Forty-two Pistoles, which I have furnished the said Courier with at your Request. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 7. 1701.

I Have the favour of yours of the 21st past. As for the *St. Lo* Yacht, I take it for granted, that you will soon hear of her, and the Captain will acquaint you how he has been treated. I was forced at last to speak pretty warmly on that Subject, which had its Effect, and which I avoid else as much as I can, since I find that our Intentions are to maintain a good Understanding here. The Duke of *Berwick* is now named for *Flanders*, as you will find in the *Paris* Gazette, as also how ill our Fleet is mann'd. Nevertheless it has put a stop to theirs, and we hear nothing of them: but they will have several Squadrons, one at *Gibraltar*, one at *Cadiz*, and about twenty, under the Command of Monf. *de Chateaurenault*, in the *West-Indies*, tho' he is not yet failed.

Monf. *de Catinat* writes word, that it is necessary that all the Horse, that are on the Frontiers of *Savoy*, should make what haste they could; and that, to prevent effectually the Emperor's Forces coming into *Italy*, they ought to have *Verona*: but the *Venetians* will not hear of this, and have reinforced the Garrison. I have inclosed Monf. *Schonenberg's* of the 21st past. Other Letters do confirm the same, and I can assure you that they begin to be very uneasy at this Court to find themselves obliged to bear the whole Burthen, with the Mortification that ours and the States Demands were not there thought so unreasonable as the *French* expected they would, and 'twas thought that it would have made them act with the greatest Vigour towards the Support of their own Monarchy. Most People here also murmur, as much as they dare, at the Capitation, &c. and at supporting a People that will do nothing for themselves. It is certain, that Money was never more scarce than it is now here, and it must infallibly grow worse, the King being obliged to send such considerable Sums in Specie into *Italy*, *Flanders*, and *Germany*: besides, People make a manifest Profit by sending the Specie out of the Kingdom into other Countries, which is daily done, and which is owing to the Uncertainty they are under, by the King's raising and falling of the Money, and their having no Trade to speak of, to make it return.

His Majesty's answering the King of *Spain's* Letter makes little Discourse at Court, since they find it not attended with any Compliments, as others were. I am persuaded that *England* had never such an Opportunity, as now, to shew themselves a considerable People abroad, and I cannot doubt but right Measures will be taken for that end.

Last Thursday arrived a Courier from Monf. *d'Avaux*. The King immediately held a Council, and then the Express was sent back again. It is reported here, that Monf. *d'Avaux* was in Conference with eight Deputies of the States, and then sent this Courier away. I expect my Letters this day from the *Hague*, which may give me some light into this matter. Perhaps they have hit on some Expedient, but I hope it will be solid, else we may suffer

suffer at last, for I take the Securities of *England* and *Holland* to depend on each other. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 28. 1701. O. S.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 4th of *May* arrived on Saturday, and was laid yesterday before His Majesty at the Cabinet Council at *Hampton-Court*. I am very glad you have obtained the Release of the *St. Lo* Yacht. I hope we shall soon hear of her Arrival.

I shall let the *Dantzick* Merchants know what Determination is made concerning their Effects, which I suppose will give them very little Satisfaction: but it must be further consider'd, how to procure them a more effectual Relief.

We understand from *Holland* as if the States were like to renew their Conferences with *Monf. d'Avaux*: but he takes care to exclude our Demands being mingled with those of the States. If *Monf. d'Avaux* has Instructions to satisfy the States as to their Security, and how the publick Peace shall be preserved, I don't know of any great Difficulties that will remain.

You will have nothing to please, or to alarm you from the House of Commons, they having adjourned on Friday 'till to-morrow, by reason of the Speaker's Indisposition, who was seized with a Quinsy, which he has been subject to: but I hear he is much better, and I suppose he may come to the House to-morrow. The producing of Letters must be allow'd to be an extraordinary Case, and what may occasion great Caution in Correspondences for the future; but I hope a thing so circumstanced will never happen again, and for what is past, I must leave it to others, who are rightly informed, to judge where the Blame originally lay.

I thought the King look'd very well yesterday, so that I hope he will have more Benefit from the Air and Exercise at *Hampton-Court* than from the Doctors Prescriptions, which he is not apt to be a regular Observer of. The King will be at *Kensington* to-morrow, and goes back again on Wednesday, after having held a Council. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, May 10. 1701.

I Acquainted your Excellency this day sevensnight with the Result of the Conference the Deputies of the States had the day before with the Count *d'Avaux*, who thereupon the same Night dispatched an Express to *Versailles*, who had the Fortune to arrive there a little after they had received the News from *England* of His Majesty having acknowledged the King of *Spain*, which had put them in good Humour, as we may judge by the Answer he brought back to *Monf. d'Avaux* the day before yesterday; in compliance with which, he has this Morning presented a Memorial to the States, which I have not yet seen, but am told by the Ministers the Substance of it is, That his most Christian Majesty is extremely pleased with the fresh Assurances the States have given him of their Inclination to Peace, and Desire of continuing the Negotiations in order thereto; that he for his part desires nothing more, as they shall see by his Readiness to comply with all things reasonable, and that he is willing that Mr. *Stanhope*, as Minister of the King of *England*, assists, together with the Deputies of the States, and his said Ambassador, at the Conferences to treat of the general Peace of *Europe*, and their particular Securities respectively. This is another Language than what he used ten days ago, and it is likely the Conferences will be suddenly renewed, tho' I doubt to little purpose.

I acknowledge with many humble Thanks your Excellency's Favour of the 2d instant, with the inclosed Paper of what passed between the Elector of *Cologn* and Count *Schlick*. There is little doubt to be made of the Inclinations both of that Elector and his Brother; but, in the general, things are not so ill in *Germany* as the *French* represent them, nor is it yet a proper time for their Princes to discover their true Sentiments. I wish my Lady a happy Voyage to *England*, and that she may there strengthen your Family by a second Son. I am, &c.

ALEXANDER STANHOPE.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 11. 1701.

I Have your Favour of the 24th past, and have nothing to acquaint you with at present from hence. The Court being at *Marly*, I shall not see M. *de Torcy* till to-morrow, neither can I learn what Orders Mons. *d'Avaux* has had: but the Courier was dispatched back the same day; and I think, by this Expedition, that it is either an Order for him to come away, or to contradict the last Orders he pretends to have received, which he acquainted the Pensionary with. I cannot think that they are inclined here to make any Proposal, that will include the Emperor, and I am still of opinion that they will see this Summer over, e'er they will consent to any thing essential.

I have waited on the *Spanish* Ambassador, and I find him in the same Language with this Court, tho' he knows but little of the Proceedings. The Scarcity of Money is now the general Discourse, and which way they will remedy it, it is hard to find out.

No Courier is come of late from *Portugal*, which shews that the Treaty, so positively mentioned here, is not concluded; neither do I believe it will, if Money and the Apprehension of the Power of *France* do not prevail.

I am glad to hear that there is so good a Disposition in the House of Commons to find out the Funds. It is time it was done, and I can tell you that it is expected here, that there will be yet an Obstruction in that matter. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 1st. 1701. O. S.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 7th instant, and have laid it before His Majesty with Mr. *Schonenberg's* Letter, from whom I have likewise received one to the same Effect by the *Groyne* Packet-Boat, dated the 20th of *April*.

We have made no Progress yet in the House of Commons, having adjourned again on Tuesday last 'till to-morrow. The Speaker came to the House on Tuesday, but it was thought fit to allow him three or four days more for confirming his Health.

The great Expectation now is, what Instructions have been sent to M. *d'Avaux* by his last Courier, and whether there will be a greater Security allow'd than the Treaty of *Ryswick*. This is like to be the finishing Stroke as to Negotiations.

At Mons. *Poussin's* Desire I presented him to His Majesty yesterday Morning, who exchanged some few Words with him, asking him if he had ever been in *England* before. He gave me then some Declarations in writing, which he said he had newly received from Mons. *de Torcy*, specifying the matters complained of at Sea. I shall have them copied to be sent to the Admiralty, to help the Inquiries they are making. I wish this may have given them any Light; but I think the *French* affect Misnomers.

The *Dantzick* Merchants are acquainted with the Satisfaction designed them, but don't see what Benefit it will be to them; unless the *French* Ministers

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put their Sentence in execution. I suppose they will trouble you again with their Thoughts about it.

I told *Monf. Pouffin* what little Reason we had to be satisfied with this Determination, and that the Seizure of the *St. Lo* Yacht was more to be taken notice of than all the Complaints he had put together. We hear nothing yet of that Captain's Return. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R

Paris, May 14. 1701.

I Acquainted you in my last, that I was to see *Monf. de Torcy* the next day; there I found that *Monf. d'Avaux* was ordered to continue at the *Hague*, and that the States had given him Hopes of other Conferences. I could not perceive that *Monf. d'Avaux* had Orders to make any Proposal, and he said he could not tell how to satisfy the Emperor, unless the Expedient, that was found out in *Germany*, would do; which was, that the King of *Spain* should yield up to the Arch-Duke all the Pretensions he has on *Holland*. You may imagine that this was not said seriously; but it may nevertheless have another View, for he gave the same thing to understand to the other foreign Ministers. It may be done to shew there is a Possibility to accommodate matters with the Emperor, in case *Holland* will not come to.

The Letters from *Italy* say, that the Imperial Troops increase daily near *Trent*; and they write from *Sicily*, that there is a Disturbance at *Messina*, and that the Governor seems to declare for the Emperor, and that the People are for recovering their ancient Rights and Liberties: in short, matters were not appeased when the Express from the *French* Consul came away. I am told, that upon this some Gallies are ordered towards *Naples* and *Sicily*. It is said also, that some of the *French* Troops are marching out of *Catalonia* towards *Cadiz*.

They do not well understand here what we intend to do with our Fleet, which puts them under some Apprehensions and Difficulties.

I am glad to hear that His Majesty looks so well, but I assure you that this is strangely represented here. I have just now received Letters from Mr. *Stanhope*, whereby I find that the Difficulties about his assisting at the Conferences are removed, and that the Conferences will begin soon. This shews that matters may come to be adjusted, and that *Monf. d'Avaux* may possibly have some secret Instructions. I wish it may prove so. I have your Favour of the 28th past, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Paper annexed.

Paris, May 14. 1701.

I Am assured that an Express is lately arrived here from *Lisbon*, and that the *French* Envoy there acquaints this Court, that, contrary to his Expectation, the King of *Portugal* refuses to sign the Treaty, and has taken time to consider of it; that the Envoy attributes this his ill Success to a Memorial, which Mr. *Methuen* has presented, and that he has sent a Copy of it hither. They could not tell me what it contained, but I am promised it the next Week. You can judge whether it relates to what you mentioned to me, or any former Orders that he has had; so that if we press that Affair, there is Likelihood of Success. I should think that if a Squadron of our Ships only appeared on those Coasts, it would encourage the King of *Portugal* so as to withstand the Threats of *France*. I take it to be of the last Consequence, that we engage *Portugal* in our Interest, for I am extremely mistaken if this Court will ever consent to any thing that will be called a Security to *Europe*, unless they find that the not yielding to it may be of worse Consequence to them.

Copy

Copy of the STATES-GENERALS Letter to the King.
Translated out of French.

S I R,

May 2. 1701.

AFTER the Protestations which We have made to your Majesty in our last Letter of the 23d of *April*, not to enter into any Negotiation with *France*, but in concert with *England*; We have thought fit to ask of the Count *d'Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his most Christian Majesty, if he was inclined and authorised to re-enter into the Negotiation in the manner it was begun, in conjunction with the Minister of your Majesty; as you may see by our Resolution of the 2d of this Month here annexed. Count *d'Avaux*, having sent this to his most Christian Majesty, presented Us, after the Return of his Courier, the Memorial, of which we join likewise a Copy to this Letter. We have immediately communicated it to Mr *Stanhope*, Envoy Extraordinary from your Majesty, and after having concerted with him about it, We found in the said Memorial certain Obscurities which made Us doubt of its true Sense: For that Reason We thought it necessary to shew the Count *d'Avaux* the Letter which We did Ourselves the Honour to write to your Majesty on the 23d of *April* last, and our Engagement to take no measures in the Negotiation but in concert with you. The Count *d'Avaux* answered our Deputies, That he was come hither only to treat about means to preserve the general Peace, and to establish our particular Security; that if we concert on this with your Majesty, he had nothing to say against it, and that he was contented that your Majesty's Envoy should assist at the Conferences to be held about this: but that he was not at all authorised to enter into a Negotiation with him about the Interests of *England*, which were to be treated of elsewhere. Upon this Our Deputies represented, That in the Conferences about a general Peace, your Majesty was equally concerned with Us, that Our Security could not by any means be separated from that of *England*; that the two Nations had in this a common Interest, and that we could not but look upon your Majesty as a principal Party concerned as much as We in the present Negotiation, without Our injuring your Majesty. But notwithstanding several Instances of our Deputies, and all the Reasons they could alledge, Count *d'Avaux* persisted in the mentioned Answer, saying that he had no other Orders; that he would send our Resolution (of which your Majesty will here see the Copy) to the Court of *France*, without giving the least hopes of an Answer conformable to Our Sentiments. Upon the Report which has been made to Us, we have judged that thus they would separate the Interests of *England* from those of Our Republick. We look upon them as inseparable, and as it is a plain case that they are so, We could draw no other Conclusion from this proceeding, but that, on the side of *France*, there was a design to end the Conferences, and to consent to none of the Securities demanded, which are so necessary to the preservation of the Kingdoms of your Majesty and of Our Republick. We are obliged to give your Majesty notice of all this. We protest, that Our Interests being the same with those of your Majesty in this Negotiation, and inseparable one from the other, We shall not suffer them to be divided in any manner. In the mean while, Sir, We cannot but represent to your Majesty the pressing Occasion We have to be assisted, without loss of time, if We will prevent the Ruin we are threatened with, and the apparent Danger in which we are. You know to the bottom the State of our Affairs, and you can easily judge, if it be possible, in the situation in which we are, to resist Forces so much superior as those of *France* are. It is that which made us desire with so much earnestness the Execution of the Treaty, which received the Approbation of the Parliament in the Year 1678, betwixt King *Charles* the Second, of Glorious Memory, and this State. We repeat now Our most earnest Instances to have quickly the stipulated Succours, and the entire Execution of the said Treaty. We flatter Ourselves, that your Majesty will make a serious Reflection on the Condition in which we are,

particularly after the positive Assurances which you have given Us, that the Resolutions of your Parliament were to interest themselves vigorously in our Preservation, and to assist Us in the Necessity in which we are, by furnishing the Succours we are agreed about. We will tell you, Sir, in what condition *France* puts itself, and your Majesty will judge by that if our Fear, which reanimates our Demands, be ill founded. *France*, not contented with having taken possession of all the Places in the *Netherlands* that remained to *Spain*, has thrown into them, and causes actually every day formidable Forces to march thither. They draw a Line from the *Scheld* near *Antwerp* to the *Maese*. They are going to begin to draw such a Line, according to our Advices, from *Antwerp* to *Ostend*. They send a numerous Artillery into the Places that are nearest to our Frontiers. They make with great diligence many Magazines in *Flanders*, in *Brabant*, in *Guelderland*, and at *Namur*, which they fill up with all sorts of Ammunition for War and Subsistence, besides the great Stores of Forrage which they gather from all parts. They build Forts under the Cannon of our Places. Besides, they have worked, and work still continually to draw the Princes that are Our Friends from Our Interest, to make them enter into their Alliance, or to engage them to a Neutrality at least. In short, by Intrigues and Divisions in the Empire, they make Our Friends useless, and increase those of *France*. Thus We are almost surrounded on all sides, except on the side of the Sea. See here, Sir, without any disguise, the true situation to which we find Ourselves reduced, without adding any thing to what is fact. This makes Us hope, that as your Majesty understands our Affairs perfectly well, you will agree with Us, that at present Our Condition is worse than it was during the last War, and worse than if we were actually at War; whilst they make Forts under the Cannon of our strong Places, and Lines along our Frontiers, without Our being able to hinder it, as We might do, if We were at War.

These Reasons oblige Us to put Ourselves in a State of Defence, more than if we were actually attacked, by overflowing the Country, and even to cut the Dikes to secure our Frontiers. We are forced to employ these means, and all those we could bear in an open War: so that our Subjects suffer already more than they did during the last War. Hitherto the Winter has served Us as a sort of Security: That Season is over, and We are at the Brink of being invaded and overturned, every moment, if we do not get prompt Succours. We promise Ourselves, Sir, that it will come from your side, especially since it has pleased your Majesty to assure Us that your Parliament had taken Resolutions that were favourable for Us. As Our Necessity is pressing, We pray You to consider well the Extremity in which We are, and the Impossibility of avoiding Our entire Ruin, and the Overthrow of Our Republick, if We are left in this condition. We believe, Sir, that the Interests of *England* are so strictly united with Ours, that We would sooner expose Ourselves to all hazards, than suffer that they should be separated, or take any measures but in concert with your Majesty. It is quite unnecessary to represent to You, that the preservation of your own Kingdoms ought to induce You to prevent Our Ruin, whilst We believe their loss to be inseparable from Ours. The Reasons, Sir, are better known to You than to Us, as well as the fatal Consequences to which We are exposed by leaving Us in this condition. This convinces Us that your Majesty will direct every thing, by your consummate Wisdom, and the good Intentions of your Parliament, in such a manner as to shew all *Europe*, that nothing is more advantageous to it than its Alliances with *England*, and its Friendship. As for Us, we expect without delay the Accomplishment of the above-named Treaty: And We pray God, Sir, to preserve the sacred Person of your Majesty in long Health, and your Dominions in a flourishing Prosperity. *Hague, May 13. 1701.*

Your Majesty's very humble Servants,

The STATES-GENERAL of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*.

J. VAN WICHER.

By their Order, F. FAGEL.

Count

Count D'AVAUX's Memorial to the STATES.
Presented at the Hague, on the 10th of April, 1701.

Translated out of French.

THE underwritten Ambassador Extraordinary of the most Christian King to your Lordships, has sent to the King his Master, the Resolution which you have delivered him on the 3d of this Month; by which you shew the desire you have that the Conferences, which have been begun with him, for the preservation of the Peace, and for the establishment of your particular Security, be reassumed conjointly with the Envoy of the King of *England*; your Lordships declaring at the same time, that you desire nothing more ardently than to see that Negotiation soon ended by a good and happy conclusion: His Majesty, to whom the underwritten Ambassador has given an account of the Answer he made to your Lordships, in relation to the admission of the Envoy of *England*, has intirely approved of it. Nor has he less approved of the Assurances which your Lordships give in that Memorial of the Desire you have to preserve the Peace; and as his Majesty persists in the same Resolution to maintain the publick Repose, He will see with pleasure, that means may be found the most conformable to the general good of *Europe*, and to secure its tranquillity. It is with this view, that, as soon as He knew that your Lordships had proposed to recommence the Conferences, He consented that the underwritten should renew them, and that he should remain at the *Hague* for that reason.

Signed, The Count D'AVAUX.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 18. 1701.

WHAT I mentioned to you in my last, concerning Monsieur d'Avaux, was occasioned by a Mistake Mr. Stanhope was under. He has since sent me the Memorial, by which I find that Matters at the *Hague* are still on the same foot they have been for some time. I perceived this also yesterday by Monsieur de Torcy. I did imagine that Monsieur d'Avaux must have had Orders to make some Proposal: but I can assure you that he has not, neither does this Court seem disposed to yield up any part of the Monarchy of *Spain*, tho' it might secure the Peace of *Europe*. Whether Mr. Stanhope will have Orders to assist at the Conferences, only as Minister of an Ally to the States, without the power of making any Proposition from his Majesty in relation to *England*, you know best: but here they take it for granted. The sense of the House of Commons went no further than to continue the Negotiation in concert with the States, for their Security; that is, *the Security of the States*: and that which confirms those words the more, is, that the words, *The Peace of Europe*, are left out in the Addresses that were made to His Majesty: from whence they conclude here, that the Concern the Parliament expresses in all this matter, is only in relation to the States. The Projects discoursed of lately at *Paris*, are, To yield up to the *Dutch* the *Spanish Guelderland*, provided that *Maestricht* be demolished. Another is, that the Duke of *Lorain* is to have *Flanders*, and the *French King Lorain*; and that the *Roussillon* be given to *Spain* as an Equivalent. It is certain that such discourses are seldom permitted here, if they do not first come from Court. I cannot see that the Affairs of *Europe* would be in a better condition, if either of these could be agreed on. I take the Resolution of this Court to be at present, that Monsieur d'Avaux should continue at the *Hague*, till they see what success the Emperor's Troops have in *Italy*. If they do nothing, then he will be immediately recalled, and *Holland* attack'd by some Siege, &c. If it prove otherwise, then I do not doubt but Monsieur d'Avaux will readily find out expedients. I cannot tell but it may be our Interest also to see first what those

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who are most concerned, are able to do; provided such measures be taken, that, whatever may happen, we may have it still in our power to obtain good Conditions.

All the Colonels have Orders to repair to their Regiments, and the General Officers to be ready to go upon the least notice. The *Gens d'Arms* are gone for *Flanders*.

As to the Treaty of *France*, *Portugal*, &c. it is certain, that the *French* Ministers at *Lisbon* cannot prevail with the King of *Portugal* to sign it, which is no little mortification to them here, after their having published it in the manner they did.

The *French* Troops in *Italy* have Orders to march into the State of *Venice*, towards *Verona*. Monsieur *de Chateaurenault* is still at *Brest*. Five Men of War will soon set sail for the *West-Indies*, and eight more are to follow, so that in all there will be then twenty at least. Count *d'Estrée* is going to *Gibraltar*, and *Nesmont's* Squadron is to join him; which will make that a Fleet of thirty Men of War, besides Galleys. Here is no account from *Messina* since my last.

I have Letters from *Spain* of the 5th, but there is little in them; only that the Princess of *Savoy* was declared the intended Wife of the King of *Spain*, and that the Duke *d'Harcourt* was dying. I have none of your's to acknowledge, the Thursday-Post being not yet come. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 21. 1701.

I Acknowledge the favour of your's of the 1st and 5th instant. I suppose that before now you are acquainted, that the Conferences at the *Hague* are not like to go on till further Orders from His Majesty. There is a Secret in all this matter that makes them act as they do, and it is well if it is not in *England*.

A Courier is arrived from *Spain* with Letters of the 11th, which confirm that the King of *Spain* has declared the Princess of *Savoy* his Queen, and an Ambassador is named for *Turin*, who is to set out with all expedition, and the Princess is expected at *Madrid* before the end of the Summer. This shews that here they intend to keep no measures with the Emperor, and takes away what I thought might have been one part of the Expedient to accommodate Affairs. It is certain that the Duke of *Savoy* makes many difficulties about joining his Troops to those of *France*, as being resolved to be secure of his Marriage first. As well inclined to *France* as he is, I find he would not trust them. The Letters from *Italy* say, that the *French* are entered into the State of *Venice*, and are marching to *La Chiusa* to oppose the Imperialists.

I shall take notice of the Complaint you sent me. As to the *St. Lo* Yacht, the Orders were sent from hence on the 11th instant, and therefore I wonder you hear nothing of her. As to the delay I meet with in doing common Justice to several of our Merchantmen, which I do not trouble you with, it is unaccountable; but I find we must be contented with fair Words. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 24. 1701.

I Have not been honoured with any Letter from your Excellency for these several Posts past: but I received the 22d instant a Packet of Letters from Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, which was brought by a Man of War dispatched hither on purpose. In it, Mr. *Vernon* gives me an account of the great likelihood there was that the *French* had concluded a defensive Alliance with this Court, by which, in case of a War between *England* and *France*, all the Ports of this

this Kingdom were to be shut to the *English* and *Dutch* Ships, and that the Marquis *de Torcy* had been so free as to tell your Excellency as much in your Conversation with him, soon after the arrival of a Courier from *Portugal*. If any Trust can be reposed in the King or his Ministers, no such Treaty or Alliance is yet made; and I am so far well informed, as to be certain that it is not, unless it was concluded and sent by an Express which came to the *French* Ambassador the 16th instant, and was dispatched by him back again the next day; in which case, His Majesty will be sooner informed from your Excellency than from me; all things, as well those of the greatest as of the smallest moment being kept very secret here of late, and I suppose the *French* will on the contrary be very ready to publish any thing which is for their Advantage in the present Conjunction. However, I hope that before I send back the Man of War to *England*, I may be able to give His Majesty some account of the King of *Portugal's* Intentions that may be relied on, and to acquaint your Excellency with something more certain by the next Post. I have an Audience of the King this Morning, and am just now going to the Palace; so that I have only time to assure your Excellency that I am, &c.

PAUL METHUEN.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 25. 1701.

I Have the favour of your's of the 8th instant, and wait with great impatience to know what the Parliament has done in relation to the States-General. Their Proceeding in this Matter will determine the Fate of *Europe*, and consequently ours. I could not find by Monsieur *de Torcy* but that they still insist on not admitting of Mr. *Stanhope*, otherwise than as they have already declared; and, in case they should change their Opinion, yet it is certain that Monsieur *d'Avaux* will not have Orders to make any other Proposal for the Security than the Treaty of *Ryswick*, &c. Which makes me conclude, that were this difficulty removed, yet it would little advance the Negotiation.

Monsieur *Puysegur* is come from *Flanders*, and returns thither in a few days. I know he represents, that the States have not much above Fifty Thousand Men, which is far short of the Account I have from thence. The Preparations of War continue here. Monsieur *de Villeroy* sets out very soon, and Monsieur *de Tallard*, &c. with him.

The Letters of the 10th from *Milan* say, that there are about Twelve Thousand Men posted at *La Chiufa*, and not above seven Miles distant from the Imperialists. The *French* pretend to be so entirely Masters of the River *Adige*, that nothing can pass that way; but the *Germans* may still march into the *Friuli*.

The Congregation appointed by the Pope to consider when and to whom he ought to give the Investiture of *Naples* and *Sicily*, has adjourned for a Month. They were of Opinion to inquire first into the Abuses, and what Incroachments have been made since the last meeting, in relation to the Church. You may imagine that this is not very acceptable here; and, in short, it is saying, that those who have the Advantage in *Italy*, will have the Investiture. The Matter of the greatest Consequence, is the Account they have at *Venice* of the Preparations of the *Turks*, which their Ambassador here has confirmed to me. The Grand Signor is come to *Adrianople*, and has exposed the Horsetail. Twenty-four Thousand Men are encamped already, and Orders are given for all the Troops to repair thither, as usual. They are also putting Twenty-seven Men of War to Sea, and Thirteen more from *Barbary* are expected to join them. It is not known against whom this is designed, but it is feared that the Empire and the *Morea* may be in their Thoughts, especially if this Matter is concerted elsewhere. The *Venetians* are sending forthwith eight Men of War to Sea, but they have drawn most of their Troops from the *Morea*, which puts them there in great danger.

The only discourse here now is of the new Queen of *Spain*. I saw her Picture yesterday at Court. Several of the foreign Ministers have on this occasion complimented the Court, as from themselves; but I have not followed their Example. It is making their Court to a great degree, but I am persuaded that they are not valued the more for it. As the present Posture of Affairs stand, all such Accidents must make my being here very disagreeable, considering upon what foot I was formerly.

King *James* is set out from *Bourbon*, and will be here about the 10th of next Month. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Paper annexed to the foregoing Letter.

Paris, May 25. 1701.

I Hope soon to send you the Memorial presented to the King of *Portugal*. It was not from any foreign Minister, as I first thought, but from the Chief Men at *Lisbon*, and those concerned in the management of their Commerce. It is extremely well writ, as I am told, and it cannot be answered here. It sets out, that the true Interest of *Portugal* is to maintain a Neutrality armed: But in case it is thought proper to enter into any Alliance, then to do it with *England* and *Holland*.

I think it convenient to acquaint you, that one Captain C——I, formerly in my Lord L——'s Regiment, is come over from *England*. He set out on Friday the 7th from *London*, and was on Sunday at Noon at *St. Dennis*, where he staid till the next Morning. He is the more to be suspected by his Expedition at this time; and I know that it is usual to receive the Packets that do come for *St. Germain*, at *St. Dennis*, but especially now whilst they have been at *Bourbon*.

You may inform yourself of the Secretary of *Scotland*. It may be he comes by Order; if so, all is well: for rely on it, this Court could not act as it does, considering its Circumstances, were there no hopes of our Divisions in *England* and *Scotland*.

I cannot tell what is the reason that of late none of those Letters are come, and H. to whom they are wrote, is surprised at it. I have taken care to have the first that shall come. I am obliged to you for letting me know what is proposed and doing.

Copy of His Majesty's Message to the House of Commons.

WILLIAM R.

HIS Majesty having lately received an Account from Mr. *Stanhope* of the present Posture of Affairs in *Holland*, and likewise a Letter from the States-General, which is of the greatest importance; and His Majesty, who has so perfect a Knowledge of their Country, being intirely convinced of the hardship of their present Condition, and the great pressures they now lie under, which are particularly expressed in the above-mentioned Letter, has thought it absolutely necessary to communicate the same to this House, that the expectation the States have of present Assistance may more fully appear. And His Majesty does not doubt but this House will be so justly sensible of those immediate Dangers to which they stand exposed, as to take the same into their most serious and effectual Consideration; it being most evident, that the Safety of *England*, as well as the very Being of *Holland*, does very much depend upon your Resolutions in this Matter.

Kensington, May 19. 1701.

The like Message was sent to the House of LORDS.

The

*The EMPEROR's Envoy's Memorial to the KING.**Translated out of Latin.**Most Serene and most Potent KING,*

IT has been plain, for many Years past, to every body, and to the heavy loss of many, that the King of *France*, by too great an Ambition, has taken it in his head to disturb the Counsels, and to invade *Europe* with Arms, to take away Towns and Fortresses, laying waste the neighbouring Territories, to confound every thing, to aim at the Liberty and the Fortunes of every body, and by all sort of ways to pave the way to the supreme Empire over all the Princes and People of *Europe*. The Confederate Princes and States who were greatly concerned in this, opposed themselves to the Aims of the King who aspired so high, according to their Strength, and joined their Forces, that so he might not do all he intended: Thus much they effected, and for some time they had hopes of Quiet, after such great Labours. But their Arms are scarce laid down, when behold, new Disturbances, new Tempests from all sides; and what could not be done by Force, is by the most Christian King by various Machinations, and by overturning the antient Counsels, brought so far to pass, that the Yoke is now, if ever, to be feared: For by the Accession of so many Kingdoms and Provinces of the Monarchy of *Spain*, the Strength of the King of *France* is increased to that height, that there is scarce any hope left, unless He that threatens all be early opposed with Arms. The pretext for the undertakings of the most Christian King is indeed a certain Will of the Catholick King *Charles* the Second, lately deceased, by which it is said that the Duke of *Anjou* is named and constituted Heir to the aforesaid Catholick King. But that does not deserve the name of a just Will, whilst it was by various Arts, Threatnings, and at last by Force extorted from the Catholick King when he was in the Agonies of Death; nor could the Catholick King make a Will diametrically opposite and repugnant to the Renunciations of the Queens *Anne* of *Austria*, and *Maria Theresia*; and besides, to the Wills of the Kings *Philip* the Third and *Philip* the Fourth, by which the aforesaid Renunciations are fully explained. It is known to the whole World with what solemn Form the foresaid Renunciations were made, and by holy religious Oaths established, and they were also, as solemnly as was possible, confirmed by the Treaty of the *Pyrenees*, and the eighth Article of that of *Aix-la-Chapelle*, also by the eighth Article of that of *Nimeguen*, and the twenty-ninth of that of *Ryswick*. It pleased nevertheless the King of *France* lately, slighting these religious Contracts, to invade the whole Monarchy of *Spain*, whose lawful Heir, by a just Succession, Renunciations, Wills, and the aforesaid Treaties, is his sacred Imperial Majesty; and to seize on the Fiefs of the holy *Roman* Empire, the Disposition of which do however belong to his sacred Imperial Majesty alone. That all these came lawfully to his sacred Imperial Majesty, could very easily be proved by strong Arguments, if the thing was not so well known, and clearer than the Light. But his Imperial Majesty, not to be wanting to himself and to all *Europe*, now in so great danger, has resolved to vindicate himself and what belongs to him, and strenuously to oppose the approaching Slavery. His sacred Imperial Majesty does willingly confess, that what he undertakes is difficult and full of dangers: but putting his hopes in the Justice of his Cause, he is fully persuaded that the Confederate Kings and Princes, among whom your Majesty holds the principal place, will send strong Succours, and fight for the common Cause with united Arms. His sacred Imperial Majesty has ordered the underwritten Envoy Extraordinary to represent to your Majesty a thing of so much moment, and what Resolution His sacred Imperial Majesty has taken, and desires that your Majesty would give the Succours promised by the Treaty concluded in the Year 1689. which is here annexed; and to give the underwritten Envoy Extraordinary a kind Answer

as soon as your Leisure will permit it, which the underwritten Envoy Extraordinary earnestly begs by Order, and with due Reverence. *London May 1701.*

Signed, The Count WRATISLAW.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 28. 1701.

I Send you by Colonel *Park*, who goes this Morning by Post, the Paper concerning *Portugal*, which I mentioned to you. You will judge by it what their Thoughts are there, and how the Treaty with *France* came not to succeed. It was sent to this Court by their Minister, as a sort of a Justification of himself; and here they begin to repent of the haste they were in, in publishing it. I desire you will not make it publick, unless you have it from *Lisbon*, because the Person who gave it me, would then be discovered, and pass his time ill; for I obtained it by a Promise not to shew it to any Person living here.

I have been for these two or three days a little indisposed: but your Letter of the 12th, accompanied with such good Resolutions, has revived me. I will write by the Post what further occurs. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, May 28. 1701.

I Have wrote to you already by Colonel *Park*, and I have little to add. I hear that twenty Battalions and Thirty-six Squadrons, that were designed for the *Rhine*, have Orders to march for *Flanders*, which shews that they will have no occasion for them in *Germany*. This will increase the Apprehensions of the States-General; but as long as *England* acts, as they have lately done, their Fears will easily be removed. I am apt to think that this Resolution of sending more Troops into *Flanders* was taken upon the News from *England*; I cannot yet give any judgment what Effect it will have here, tho' I can assure you that it is what they did not expect. I am satisfied that the Nation will take care of itself, notwithstanding our Factions and Intrigues. The King's Answer to the Commons will certainly please the Nation, and I hope the Lords will receive the like Answer. Count *Zinzendorf* is no less pleased than Count *Wratislaw*. He has shewn me his Memorial, which I think might have been drawn up better. In case it becomes publick, as it certainly will, they will be extream angry here.

The Letters from *Italy* say, that the *French* had posted themselves beyond *la Chiufa* at *Roveredo*. That the *Germans* were endeavouring to make their way by *Riva*, or *Alta*, but nothing had passed as yet between them; that the *Venetian* General *Molino* had given the *French* Officers leave to come into *Verona* to buy what they wanted; that the *Venetians* had pressed the Pope extreamly to come into a League with them and the other Princes and States of *Italy*; but that the Pope had positively refused it.

I told *Monf. de Torcy* that a *French* Man of War had fired at our Packet-Boat, that goes to the *Groyne*, which he seemed to wonder at. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 1. 1701.

I Have been a little out of order for some days, and I am not quite well yet, so that I could not go yesterday to *Versailles*. I took care nevertheless (by one who made my Compliments to *Monf. de Torcy*) to know if *Monf. d'Avaux* had any Orders in relation to Mr. *Stanhope*. He tells me, that *Monf. de Torcy* did explain himself on that Subject in this manner; That *M. d'Avaux* had now Orders to acquaint the States, that if they would send a Minister

Minister hither, they would then treat conjointly with the *English* Minister here; but *M. d'Avaux* was only sent to the *Hague* to hear what the States themselves had to propose in relation to their Security, but it was not for the Dignity of the King to treat with other Princes there, when they had Ministers of their own at his Court. This I take to be a Pretext, if there be any meaning in it, to yield up at last, in a better manner, that which they have hitherto insisted on; but you will judge better by Mr. *Stanhope's* Letters, who will have acquainted you with this already. I take this Proposal to be impracticable at present, and were it not so, I fear it would be impossible to make them speak plain here, and it is well if they can be made to do it at the *Hague*.

Monf. de Tourville died last Saturday. I have yours of the 15th past to acknowledge, and I hope I shall better be able to write by the next Post than by this. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 4. 1701.

I Must return my Thanks for yours of the 19th past, and for communicating to me what passed between you and Mr. *Poussin*, which I shall hear of the next time I see *Monf. de Torcy*. I find he had like to have exceeded his Orders: for tho' I have reason to think that this Court will do nothing, yet they will not break off the Negotiation now they see that we are like to take proper Resolutions thereon. I can tell you, that it has been said to some here, that in case they were sure that *England* would not demand *Nieuport* and *Ostend*, the Admission of Mr. *Stanhope* would be easily consented to, which is bringing the matter again to their own Point: but I hope never to see a Minister of *England* make such a Figure as that. The next Objection is, that it will be erecting a sort of Congress where the Emperor's Minister at least will assist, &c. and if so, they apprehend, that if Matters cannot be adjusted, as there is little Appearance whilst they resolve to yield nothing, a League will be immediately formed against them. I take this to be but very indifferent Reasoning; for I cannot see how they will prevent the Princes of *Europe's* joining.

I cannot tell whether you will have heard of Mr. *Schonenberg* of so fresh a date as the last to me, and that makes me inclose it. Count *d'Estrée* has got a Pension of Twelve Thousand Crowns in *Spain*, which I perceive does not very much please there, where so many Pensions are taken away from others. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P.S. My Lord *Montgomery* and his Lady are come from *Ghent* hither, and remain *incognito*. He sent to know whether he might wait on me, which I could not refuse. He said it was the Curiosity of his Wife that brought him hither, and they took this Opportunity now the Court of *St. Germain's* is gone, and they intend to leave this place before it arrives. It may be so, since any Correspondence imaginable, that is carried on now, comes safe, and especially from *Flanders*.

I shall endeavour to know from whom the Person I mentioned to you was sent, tho' I do not think that I shall succeed.

It is now harder than ever to know what is doing at *St. Germain's*, and especially what Correspondence they have in *England*, whilst they have amongst them the Opinion that they shall be restored. Few will run the hazard to lose what they expect on such a Change.

I understand by the Emperor's Envoy here, that Count *Wratislaw* was very well pleased with the Audience he had of His Majesty.

I

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 7. 1701.

I Was in great hopes that I might have been able to give your Excellency, by this Post, such an account of the King of *Portugal's* Intentions as might be relied on, but it has fallen out contrary to my Expectation; and notwithstanding that I have detained here His Majesty's Ship the *Lowestoff* for these fifteen days, and spent all this time in soliciting the King of *Portugal* and his Ministers, and proposing such things to them, as it would be much more natural for themselves to ask, if they were sensible of their true Interest; yet I have not been able to obtain any Answer from them to my Proposals, nor any thing else by which I may guess at what they intend, only positive Assurances of their not having as yet concluded any Treaty with *France*; of which I am very certain, but I know not how soon they may do what they seem so much inclined to. However, I shall have the Comfort not to have neglected any thing that lay in my power, in order to hinder them from being guilty of so rash and inconsiderate a thing, and to make them see that their Interest in the present Juncture would be to seek all possible means of uniting themselves more firmly than ever with *England* and *Holland*, as the only Powers that are able to help them at any time against the united Force and Designs of *France* and *Spain*. I must confess that I am afraid the slow Resolutions of our Parliament, and the little Likelihood there is of our declaring War against *France* this Summer, may have contributed as much to the present Posture of Affairs in this Court, as the Endeavours of the *French*. I am, &c.

PAUL METHUEN.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 11. 1701.

THE Court goes into Mourning to-morrow for the death of the Duke of *Orleans*, who was seized at Supper on Wednesday last with a Fit of an Apoplexy, and died about twelve the next day. He had not his Speech from the time he was taken ill. The King was with him most part of the Night. He is extremely concerned.

I have concerted with the rest of the publick Ministers about what we are to do on this occasion, and it is agreed, that on Tuesday next we shall make the King a Compliment, as from ourselves. I cannot tell yet in what manner this Court will notify it to His Majesty. I had my Liveries, &c. all new made, but must now put all my Family again into Mourning, and I cannot stay for your Directions, since by the end of next Week none will appear otherwise. It is yet uncertain on what foot the Duke of *Chartres* will be, tho' it is said, that by the Contract of his Marriage the King consented that on the death of Monsieur, the same Revenue that Monsieur had from the Crown should be continued to him, with the Title of *Orleans*, Guards, &c. Otherwise he would now be looked upon only as the first Prince of the Blood.

On the 9th arrived here a Courier from the Cardinal *d'Estree*, who is at *Venice*, with Letters of the 1st instant. He writes, that Prince *Eugene* was near *Vicenza* with three Thousand five Hundred Horse, and about nine Thousand Foot, and continued his March towards *Verona*. Their Artillery was not with them, but it was following, with the rest of their Army. They keep an exact Discipline, paying for every thing; so that, in all probability, there is now only the *Adige* between the two Armies, and that of the Emperor is not inferior to that of the *French*. I am told, that the River is fordable in several places in Summer; so we may soon hear of an Action. The Duke of *Savoy's* Troops will be on the 15th instant in the *Milanese*. His Horse is not yet quite recruited, so that those Troops may come too late. I have just

now

now seen two more Letters, the Copies of which I send you, and I can assure you they are from good hands. I send you also the Answer that was given to the *French* Ambassador at *Ulm*, (which may be you have not seen) that you may see how things stand on that side. All this makes them here send seventeen Battalions more into *Italy* from *Franche Comté*, as also seven more of those that are towards the Frontiers of *Spain*. *M. de Villeroy's* Equipage stays at *Metz*.

Monf. de Torcy did not come to *Paris*; as he intended, by reason of *Monsieur's* Death; so I shall not see him 'till Tuesday next. He acquainted me nevertheless, that, in relation to the Complaint I had made of a *French* Ship's firing at our Packet-Boat to the *Groyne*, that matter had been examined into, and they find that it could not be a *French* Frigate; but he rather takes it to have been an *Algerine*, by reason they have advice that some *Algerines* have lately appeared in those Seas.

By my Letters from the *Hague* I find, that *Monf. d'Avaux* has at last made the Proposition I acquainted you with, about treating here. The States do not in the least approve of it, and have signified as much to *Mr. Stanhope*. We must now see whether this Court will desist, which I hope to let you know by my next. We want one Post from *England*, so I have none from you to acknowledge. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 23. 1701.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 4th instant, and have laid it before His Majesty. The States have now communicated to His Majesty the Answer that *Monf. d'Avaux* gave them in relation to *Mr. Stanhope*, which is the same your Excellency gave an account of the Week before. *M. Poussin* came to me as soon as he received his Letters, and read to me what *M. Torcy* and *M. d'Avaux* had writ to him on that Subject. The Substance of it was, that *Mr. Stanhope* might be present at the Conferences, if he forbore to give in any Memorials. If those were to be given both by the *English* and *Dutch* Ministers, then it was expected the States should send an Ambassador to *Paris*, who with your Excellency might separately make such Demands, as you shall respectively have Orders for; that the two Ambassadors may consult together as they think fit, but there would be no joint Conferences with the Ministers there.

Whatever may be meant by such a Scheme, I don't find we are like to give into it: but I suppose *Mr. Stanhope* will have Directions to acquaint the States, that His Majesty can't approve of any Proposals that tend to separate Treaties.

Monf. Poussin often insinuated in his Discourse what your Excellency mentions about *Ostend* and *Nieuport*, as if those Places made our Demands impracticable. I asked him, whether they had rather the *Dutch* should have them than we; but that he thought the same thing. He has got it by the end, that the Parliament don't care to charge themselves with the keeping those Places. I told him, that would best appear when they treat about them and the other Articles. I was glad to find he had no Exceptions against the other Demands, since he singled out this: but that he would not own, for the first Article relating to the Emperor's Satisfaction, he could not think either *England* or *Holland* were serious in it. He gave me a touch, as if we delayed opening our Minds, in expectation of some great Events abroad, meaning *Italy*. I told him, there was more appearance of what was said on the other side, that we were to be entertained with general Discourses of an Inclination to Peace 'till the Parliament was up, and then we should see what was really and originally intended. He answered, that we should not find them the Aggressors.

s G

My

My Lord *Marlborough* is appointed Commander in chief of the Forces designed for *Holland*, and he has likewise a Commission of General of the Foot.

All the Ways and Means are resolved on for raising the Money for this great Service, and I hope those Bills may be in great Forwardness by the end of the next Week. In the mean time the Lords press on the Tryals of the impeached Lords, which may occasion some Heat between the two Houses.

The King went to *Windsor* last Night, and stays there 'till to-morrow. His Majesty will come to the Parliament on Wednesday, upon the Address of the Lords to pass the Bill of Succession, and the Bill that restrains Parliament Privileges. I am, &c.

JA. VERNON.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 15. 1701.

IT being at last settled by the King here, that on the occasion of Monsieur's Death, the same Ceremony should be observed as was on Madame *la Dauphine's* Death; I had yesterday a publick Audience of the whole Court, except Madame and the Duke of *Chartres*, who were indisposed, and those were therefore deferred 'till next Week. The chief part of the Compliment I made to the King was as from myself; tho' at the same time I took notice how much the King my Master would be concerned, &c. The King's Answer was extremely obliging, and he said he did not doubt of the King's Concern on this surprising Occasion, &c. The manner in which this will be notified to His Majesty, will be by a Letter, which M. *Poussin* will put into your hands. This King will write to His Majesty in his own hand; so I desire you will give me the necessary Instructions, with such Letters as are usual, that so there may be no mistake: you will let me know also what the Princess is to do on this occasion. I suppose it will be soon notified, and the sooner the Compliment is returned, the better it will be looked on. The Duke of *Chartres* has the Title of *Orleans*, but the Ceremonial is the same as it was formerly.

I can now acquaint you that the Difficulty about continuing the Conferences at the *Hague* is removed, and Monf. *d'Avaux* has Orders to let the States know as much. I always thought that the first Concession was a Step to grant the other, that so they might not seem to yield up at once what they had so long insisted on. I had some Discourse with Monf. *de Torcy* on this Subject. He asked me whether our Intentions were to enter into a Treaty *de bonne foy*, without insisting now that the Emperor's Minister should be admitted. I told him I had all the reason to think, that we desired nothing more than that means might be found out to preserve the Peace of *Europe*, and in particular to procure a sufficient Security for the States-General. That as for the Emperor, it was to be wished that that matter could be accommodated; else I could not see how the Peace of *Europe* would be preserved, since Acts of Hostility had passed already in *Italy*: but I could not say any thing to that matter. I do foresee that they will not consent to the Admission of the Emperor's Minister, if that be desired; and my Reason for it is, that if they should, it would be a sort of owning some Right the Emperor has, which they will in no manner do, that Case being different as to us and the States-General: but at the same time an Expedient may possibly be consented to, so that We may treat on that Point as Allies, and by doing what good Offices we can towards an Accommodation. I am satisfied, that here they would be extremely glad to get well out of this matter, and they would have great Reason to be so, considering the Posture of their Affairs; but how, is the question.

The last Courier from *Italy* brought Letters of the 5th. A Party of the *French* and *Spaniards* fell in with one of the *Germans*. A *Spanish* Captain was kill'd, and the rest were taken Prisoners. Upon this Monf. *de Catinat* sent

sent to reclaim them : but Prince *Eugene* answered, that they were Prisoners of War, and that it would be first necessary to settle a *Cartel*. The *Germans* were encamped upon the *Adige*, between *Verona* and *Porto Legnago*, another Fortrefs of the *Venetians*. The *French* were on the other side near *Isola*, tho' there still remained a Body of Troops where they first passed. We shall now have Couriers daily. *Monf. de Catinat* has desired more Troops and General-Officers. The King has named three *Marèchaux de Camp*, viz. *Asfeld*, *Grider*, and *Surlaube*, and ten Battalions, twelve Regiments of Horse, and one of Dragoons, are ordered from *Franche Comté*; some say more: but however these Troops cannot arrive there 'till towards the middle of *August*. It is certain that this Court is not satisfied with the Duke of *Savoy*.

I was so taken up with my Audiences, that I had but little time with *Monf. de Torcy*, and I did not, as from myself, take any notice that they had prohibited the Importation of our Tobacco in *Spain*, &c. tho' I am almost assured, that he would have disowned that they had any hand in it. All these things we must retrieve by some means or other, else we shall suffer for it at last.

I have delivered a Memorial about the *Hoy*, *William Penny* Master, and I will do all I can in it. I hope he was not otherwise concerned than as he sets out in his Petition; else he and the rest will certainly be condemned to the Gallies, it being positively against the Law to be assisting in carrying off the *French* Subjects, knowing them to be Protestants. I can tell you a late Case of one *Jersey*, who was doing the like, and was taken in *France* with those poor People, and condemned to the Gallies, notwithstanding that I did all that was possible to get him released, but I could not obtain it. As to this Case, it may not be amiss that you take notice to *M. Poussin* that you have sent me such Orders, that so they may see that notice will be taken of it in *England*.

King *James* is so decayed in his Senses, that he takes care of nothing, all things going now directly to the Queen. They were both yesterday at *Ver-sailles* to wait on the King, but they did not come 'till after Five, so that I was gone.

I received yours of the 26th and 29th past both together, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 28. 1701.

YOUR Excellency's Packet of the 11th arrived on Tuesday last, and was dispatched immediately to *Hampton-Court*.

I did not expect to hear so soon of the Imperialists getting into the Plains. It will be very well, if they find a Passage likewise over the *Adige*. This seems to be the Opportunity of setting Negotiations on foot, and I suppose the Pope's Mediation will now be hearkned to. This is a very critical Con-juncture, and I wish it was well over.

Monf. Poussin came to me the same Evening he received his Letters, to communicate what he had received from *Monf. Torcy* about their giving way that the Conferences should be continued at the *Hague*. I took the Words in writing, which are, *La Difficulté sur l'Admission de Mons. Stanhope est si peu considerable en elle mesme, que sa Majesté veut bien en la levant faire connoistre, qu'elle n'oublie rien pour faire valoir la sincerité de ses intentions pour la Paix. Ainsi elle ordonne à Mons. d'Avaux de recevoir les Memoires de l'Envoye d'Angleterre, à condition que dans les Conferences il ne sera parlé que de seuls interests de l'Angleterre, & des Estats-Generaux.* [That is, "The Difficulty is so inconsiderable in itself, that his Majesty is willing to shew, by removing it, that he forgets nothing to demonstrate the Sincerity of his Intentions for Peace. Therefore he orders *M. d'Avaux* to receive the Memorials of the *English* Envoy, on condition, that in the Conferences they shall talk only of the Interests of *England* and the States-General."] He

He repeated out of another part of his Letter, that it was to be understood, that the Memorials to be given in should make no mention of *Ostend* and *Nieuport*. I suppose the same thing will be said to your Excellency the first time you see *Monf. de Torcy*, and I expect we shall have it from the *Hague* by the next Post. In the mean time I have acquainted His Majesty with it, but I don't expect His Directions upon it 'till He hears in what manner this will be declared to you. *Monf. Pouffin* brought me at the same time a Letter from the King of *France* to His Majesty, styling him *Secrétaire des Ambassade*, and desiring that Credit may be given him as such.

I suppose we shall soon have a Notification in form of the Duke of *Orleans's* Death, upon which the Court here will go into Mourning. I don't doubt but His Majesty will approve of what you have thought fit to do upon this Occasion, in Concert with the other Foreign Ministers.

The House of Commons now make some Progress every day towards perfecting their Money-Bills, and I suppose they will be carried up to the Lords by the end of next Week. There are at the same time Messages passing between the two Houses, in relation to Tryals, which appear to have Difficulties that can't be soon adjusted.

The King did not come to the House of Lords, as was expected. The Lords sending Him word what Bills were ready, He returned answer, that He would come to pass them as soon as conveniently He could. I am, &c.

J. A. VERNON.

Abstract of a Treaty between the KING, the King of DENMARK, and the STATES-GENERAL, June 15. 1701.

1. **T**HE Defensive Alliances made between the said Kings and the States-General the 3d of *November* 1690, and the 3d of *December* 1696, shall be confirmed.

2. The King and the States promise to pay the Sums stipulated by the Alliance in 1696, one half as soon as the Troops begin to march, and the other half six Months after.

3. The King of *Denmark* will, in case of a War, shut all his Ports against Privateers and Men of War, unless they convoy a Fleet of Merchant-Ships to the number of forty or more.

4. The King of *Denmark* shall not longer oppose the Ninth Electorate.

5. He shall not enter into any Treaties that may disturb the Peace of the North, but prevent them.

6. He stipulates Liberty of Commerce for his Subjects, and for the better preventing of Frauds, the Convention of 1691 shall be examined and altered; and 'till that is done, the said Convention shall be in force.

7. The King of *Great Britain* and the States-General promise to pay to the King of *Denmark* three Hundred Thousand Crowns a Year during the War: but in case no War happens, and that the Forces are on their March, then to pay three Months of the Subsidy, besides Levy-Money; and if an Accommodation be made, after the Ratification of this Treaty, but before the Troops are marching, to pay a Year's Subsidy, and a fourth part of the Levy-Money.

8. The King of *Great Britain* promises to pay the Arrears due on the Convention in 1689, to the seven Thousand *Danes*.

9. The King of *Denmark* waves all Pretensions upon the States, they paying to his Majesty the Sums that the Province of *Holland* and the Town of *Amsterdam* claim from him, and return the Obligation of the late King *Frederick* the Third.

10. The King of *Denmark* shall send three Thousand Horse, one Thousand Dragoons, and eight Thousand Foot to the Assistance of the King of *Great Britain* and the States-General, immediately after the Treaty is signed, and they shall take Oath to the King and the States, as the seven Thousand did

to the King, and the granting of vacant Offices, and the Administration of Justice, shall also be in the same manner. The King and the States shall pay Levy-Money, for a Horseman eighty Crowns, a Dragoon sixty, and a Footman thirty; one half as soon as the Troops are marching, and the other, when they are arrived on the Frontiers. Their Pay shall be the same as that of the States, and be distributed by the *Danish* Commissaries, to commence from the Day of their March. If the said Troops are to be transported, such Transports are to be made at the Charge of the King of *Great Britain* and the States, who may retain them as long as they think fit; and if to be sent home, they are to give three Months notice. If the King of *Denmark* be attack'd in his own Kingdoms, he may recall them as soon as he finds it necessary.

11. If a Regiment or Company happen to be ruined, the King and the States are to recruit them, and to restore them to the same Condition they were in before, and the Recruit-Money is to be paid to the *Danish* Officers at the end of the Campaign.

12. If the King of *Denmark* should be in any wise attack'd, the King of *England* and the States-General shall send his Forces back with speed, giving them one Month's Pay, and the like Sum when they shall be sent home after the Peace; and they shall send the King of *Denmark* the Succours agreed on by the Secret Article of the Treaty in 1690.

13. Succours may be demanded by any of the Parties, if he is attack'd by Force of Arms, without his having first used Force against the Assailant: but this is to be applicable only to future Occasions. For the present, the twelve Thousand Men shall march, as soon as the Treaty is signed.

14. This Alliance shall continue ten Years from the signing thereof, and the Alliances of 1690 and 1696, are renewed by this.

15. The Emperor shall be invited into this Alliance; and if *Prussia*, *Lunenbourg*, and *Hesse-Cassel* shall desire to be comprised in it, the principal Contractants are at liberty to consent to it.

16. The Ratification shall be exchanged at *Copenhagen* in six Weeks by *England*, and in four Weeks by *Holland*.

Abstract of the Secret Articles of the foregoing Treaty.

1. IF the Succour, which *Denmark* is to send to the King of *England* and the States, should not be sufficient, that King promises to send 4000 Men more, three Months after demand. The King and the States may act with these 4000 Men, as also with the 12000 mentioned in the Treaty, as they shall think fit.

2. If *Denmark* should be attack'd, and the Succour mentioned in the Secret Articles of the Treaty of 1690 should not be sufficient, the King of *England* and the States promise to assist him with all their Forces, as *Denmark* will in the like Case assist them.

3. His Majesty and the States will use their utmost Endeavours that *Denmark* may lose nothing of its Pretensions of Money from the Crown of *Spain*.

4. The King and the States will use their good Offices, that the Emperor may pay the King of *Denmark* a Debt of a Million of Crowns; and after he has received it, he will assist the Emperor with 3000 Foot, if need be.

5. His Majesty and the States will endeavour that the Duke of *Holstein* may conform himself to the Treaty of *Travendale*, and maintain a good Friendship with *Denmark*, while he sends so many Troops out of his own Dominions.

6. The Allies shall endeavour, that the Peace in the Empire shall be entirely preserved.

7. His Majesty and the States are content, that the Emperor shall have 2000 out of the mentioned 12000 Men, mentioned in the 10th Article of this Treaty, which *Denmark* will make good to them, in six Months, after the signing of this Treaty.

8. The King of *Denmark* declares, that the King's and the States Ships of War shall at all times enter his Ports, when they convoy such a number of Ships, as they shall think fit.

9. His Majesty and the States promise, that they will, before the Ratification of this Treaty, agree with the King of *Denmark* about such a Security for the Payments, as he may be satisfied with.

10. In case of a War, his *Danish* Majesty shall not be obliged to enter into it, but be reputed to have made good his Alliance, by sending the Succours of 16000 Men, and so putting this Treaty in execution.

Done at *Copenhagen* this 15th of *June* 1701. H. GREG.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 18. 1701.

I Send you a Copy of Mr. *Schonenberg's* Letter of the 2d instant. You will find that the Person, who delivered the Packet that was for Mr. *Aglionby*, has put a trick on them, and has got 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ Louis's. It came to me the day after the Post for *Spain* was gone, and I was unwilling to delay it a Fortnight, and so got Mr. *Pajot* to send it by the first Conveniency he had. I shall enquire into the matter; but there is no Remedy now, the Money being paid. Mr. *Aglionby* writes me word, that he delivered the King's Letter to the Secretary of State, who said, he would lay it before His Majesty, which was all that passed. Since the Duke of *Harcourt's* Indisposition, all things at *Madrid* are at a stand: but now the Count de *Marsin*, a General-Officer in *Italy*, is named to assist the Duke of *Harcourt*; and in case the Duke should not do well, the Count is to have the Character of Ambassador. He has a great Character here. I have nothing more to add than that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 20. 1701.

YOUR Excellency's Letter of the 15th instant was brought me yesterday to *Hampton-Court*, and was immediately laid before His Majesty at the Cabinet-Council.

I have not seen Monf. *Poussin* since the Arrival of the Post. I suppose therefore he has not yet had the Letters of Notification sent him concerning the Duke of *Orleans's* Death. If they come by the Saturday's Post, which we expect to-morrow, His Majesty will go into Mourning on Sunday next, and Answers will be return'd without delay. My Lord *Marlborough* heard your Letter read, so I don't doubt he will take care of what is to be done at *St. James's*.

I see Monf. *Torcy* has mentioned to you what Monf. *Poussin* brought an account of last Week: As you shall have occasion to discourse further of that matter, His Majesty thinks fit you should make it understood, that it is not the Intention of His Majesty, or the States, to separate themselves from the Emperor; but they are still of the same opinion they had, when their Demands were made by Mr. *Stanhope* and the Deputies of the States, that the giving the Emperor reasonable Satisfaction would very much contribute towards securing the publick Peace.

Sir *Charles Hedges* will have Directions to signify the same by to-morrow's Post to Mr. *Stanhope*, that he may govern himself accordingly in what he may have to transact with Monf. *d'Avaux*. His Majesty does not think it necessary you should deliver this to them in writing, nor speak of it as if you had positive Orders to declare it, but rather insinuate it as the most probable means of procuring a lasting Tranquillity, and such as may be depended upon.

When I see M. *Poussin*, I shall recommend to him Mr. *Pennyman's* Case, as you advise.

You will see by the Account from the Office, that the third Bill is dispatch'd, and others are in great Forwardness; so that they may be likewise ready to be sent to the Lords by the end of this Week, if no Disputes arise about the Lords having appointed another short Day for the Tryal of my Lord *Sommers*, and having declined to join with the Commons in a Committee for adjusting what is to be considered, previous to the Tryals.

His

His Majesty is to come to *Kensington* this Evening, and will stay there to the end of the Week. I am, &c.

J^A. VERNON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hanover, June 20. 1701.

YOUR Excellency's Favour of the 10th instant found me at my return to this place two days since. I am extreamly obliged to your Excellency for your being pleased to give me any occasion of shewing you that Esteem and Consideration, which I have for your Person, with my Readiness at the same time to do whatever may tend to your Excellency's Service or Satisfaction. I made your Compliment yesterday to our Electores, acquainting her Highness, in the best manner I could, how much your Excellency concerned yourself in promoting her Interests, and the Joy you had in seeing them carried on so successfully. H. E. H. seemed extreamly pleased with what I said to her upon this Subject in your Excellency's Name, and gave me Orders to return her Compliments to you in the most obliging Expressions I could find; adding, that she had always reckoned your Excellency in the number of her Friends. I told H. E. H. your Excellency would suddenly write to her, and the reason why you had not done it sooner, was, that you staid to see the thing sure first; observing to H. E. H. in this Conjunction, that she would find that the last congratulatory Letters would not be the worst. This good old Princess has been so pester'd of late with the Letters of forward People almost unknown to her, that she is to be pityed for the trouble she takes in answering them all: but I can assure your Excellency, that your Letter will be very graciously and kindly received, her Highness remembring you perfectly well, nor shall I be wanting to do my part in helping her Memory in respect to your Excellency. She is, as your Excellency knows, so nearly related to the Dutches of *Orleans*, that she has her share of Grief for the Death of the Duke, tho' that must wear off.

I have been negotiating Matters of great Importance in my late Journey to the Court of *Holstein*, of which in time, your Excellency will be better inform'd, tho' I do not promise Success.

The Duke of *Zell* is yet Hern-Hawking at *Buckhusen*, but comes to *Zell* at the end of this Week, and from thence H. H. is expected to come to this Court. I hear no news of Lord *Raby*, tho' they say he has left *Berlin*, and moves this way. I am, &c.

JAMES CRESSETT.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 22. 1701.

I Have your's of the 5th instant to acknowledge, and do find that Monsieur *Pouffin* has been trying what would be said concerning *Nieuport* and *Ostend*, which I know they fear will be insisted on, as also the admission of the Emperor's Minister. The Orders which Monsieur *d'Avaux* had, were, to enter into Treaty with Mr. *Stanhope* and the Deputies of the States, without any restriction; as you will be informed from thence. I must tell you, that Monsieur *de Torcy* did yesterday again repeat to me, that if the Satisfaction of the Emperor was insisted on, it would certainly break off the Conferences. I do not know but that matter might be left to be considered in the last place, by which time the Affairs in *Italy* may so change, that this Court might be glad to come to an Accommodation. It is certain, and I have it from good hands, that in *Milan*, *Naples*, and in *Sicily*, the People are entirely for the Emperor, as also through all *Italy*, and the *French* are hated to the last degree, notwithstanding they keep a good Discipline. We have no News from thence, which is a sign that nothing has yet passed. By our last we had, that the *German* Horse had not yet joined the Army.

I am daily troubled with the Son of Count *Boselli*. They would here let the Father out, if the King approved of it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 25. 1701.

I Have the favour of your's of the 9th, and I shall pursue your Directions in the manner you send them me. I take it, that my part here is to endeavour to bring Matters to a good Understanding, and not to declare any thing positively, but rather as my own Thoughts: for as the Negotiation is at the *Hague*, there will be no relying on any thing that does not come from Monsieur *d'Avaux*, as they will here take their measures from what is declared to him at the Conferences; nevertheless, I may contribute to keep things from a Rupture as long as is possible, tho' I suppose none can believe that this Court will ever agree to any thing we shall think reasonable, unless Necessity obliges them, and the Consequences of not doing it may be fatal to them. I fear we must see Matters stand on this point, that either they must sacrifice some part of the Monarchy of *Spain*, or ruin their own Country, before they will agree to a reasonable Satisfaction for the Emperor; and I do not doubt but I shall hear that the Conferences are again suspended, and many difficulties will arise: for I am told, that at this Court they are already incensed at the thoughts that we shall insist on the Emperor's Satisfaction. I do not doubt but we have taken our measures right, and whatever they may pretend here of their not attacking of *Holland*, I am satisfied, that if they have a good Opportunity, they will not lose it.

All our Letters from *Venice*, the Army, &c. of the 11th and 12th, say little more than that the *Germans* were endeavouring to pass the *Adige*; that they have the confirmation of the Peace being ratified between the *Venetians* and the *Turks*, and that the Courier that brought this, is fallen sick at *Belgrade*. On Thursday last arrived here a Courier from Monsieur *de Catinat* with Letters of the 17th instant; the Court is at *Marly*, and what he brings is kept secret: We know only so far, that Prince *Eugene* had passed the *Adige* with his Army at *Rovigo*, and *La Badia*. He was advanced into the *Polesine de Rovigo*. This Courier was sent back the same day.

The Marshal *de Villeroy* is set out for *Metz*, in his way to *Strasbourg*. If what we hear from *Vienna* be true, the *French* may have occasion for Troops on the *Rhine*, as well as in other parts. All Officers whatsoever are ordered for their Posts in *Flanders*, and they talk here of several Camps. They write from *Vienna*, that the Emperor has declared in form, that the Duke of *Mantua* has forfeited his Fief, and that his Subjects are absolved from their Allegiance; and that such of them that engage in the Interest of the Emperor, shall be rewarded and well treated.

The Troops of the Duke of *Savoy* have committed great disorders in their march, and are arrived at *Cremona*; some Letters say to the number of Eight Thousand Men. In short, here they mistrust that Duke extremely.

I shall be glad to hear that the Parliament is prorogued, that they may have time to reflect. The Divisions amongst ourselves are what they most wish for here, and they will be the only means to undo us. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, June 29. 1701.

I Have received your's of the 12th instant, with His Majesty's Letters for this Court. I shall see Monsieur *de Torcy* to-morrow, and then I shall desire to know what Day will be most convenient for my Audiences, which I suppose may be Tuesday next. I hope I shall have the Letters of their Royal Highnesses before that time, that so I may present them together. I do not doubt but the Address of the House of Commons will make them here very uneasy, and consider whether they will consent to a reasonable Satisfaction for the Emperor. As for the last words in relation to *France*, it may possibly make them take some violent Resolution; and I could have wished, since they are added to the Address, to have seen it backed with a good Supply, or at

at least a Vote of Credit given to His Majesty, in case there be occasion; which I thought was the Intent of the Commons when they added one Shilling more; but I find that is laid aside for this Session.

Another Courier is arrived here from the *French* Army. The Letters are of the 21st, which contradict the last, and say, that the *Germans* had made a Bridge over the *Adige*, yet their Army was not passed; that *Monf. de Catinat* continued still where he was. The Court is at *Marly*, and it is difficult to know what Advices they have. I believe the Imperialists do meet with great difficulties, and as long as the *Venetians* continue as they are, it will be hard to surmount them; and I am of opinion, that that Republick will not act otherwise. I am assured the *French* are still increasing the Troops they send to *Italy*, and it is now said they will amount to Eighteen Thousand Men. This shews no great inclination to yield any thing to the Emperor.

I have some reason to think that *Monsieur d'Avaux* has Orders to make a Proposal in relation to the States, which you may hear of soon. They hope by these means to engage the People of *Holland* in their Interest, and that when they see themselves secure, they will not, at least for the present, be so forward to hazard a War for the sake of the Emperor. I cannot see how this Matter can, without a Miracle, end otherwise than in a War, and this has been ever my Opinion. The great Magazines that are made in *Flanders*, ought to make *Holland* apprehensive for the end of the Year, when they may possibly not be able to keep the field for want of Forrage, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTRER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 2. 1701.

CONTRARY to my Expectation, *Monsieur de Torcy* did not express himself otherwise than he used to do, when I saw him, tho' he took notice of the Words at the end of the Address, and I found he was informed of who moved them, and what others had said on that Subject. I must confess that they are grown wiser than I thought they would be, and I did imagine to have heard the same Language which *Mr. Poussin* holds. I conceived that it was my part to put the best construction I could on them; and I told him, that I understood it to be nothing more than that it shewed, that the Opinion of the Parliament was, that the King should take such measures with the Emperor and the States-General as would conduce most to the Peace of *Europe*; that since the Conferences are begun again, it was to be wished that all sides would endeavour to find such Expedients as might be proper in the present Conjuncture, &c.

The *Danish* Envoy here owns the Treaty that We and the States have made with *Denmark*; tho' I find at the same time that the Disputes between the King of *Denmark* and the Duke of *Holstein* are as great as ever. I can assure you, that if this Court had come up to 150,000 Livres more, *Denmark* would have signed a Treaty with them; and it is to be feared that this Court will still find some means to make that with us ineffectual, either by dealing underhand with *Denmark*, or else by engaging the King of *Sweden* not to make Peace with *Poland*, which perhaps is not difficult; and I am told that Overtures of that nature have been already made. I can tell you, that a Treaty was lately near agreed on by the Ministers with *Poland*: but it broke off upon the point of advancing a considerable Sum of Money, which here they deferred doing, in hopes that the Treaty would not be necessary, and now it is believed that the King of *Poland* will engage with the Emperor.

I acquainted *Monsieur de Torcy* with my having received His Majesty's Letters to this Court, and I am to have my Audiences on Tuesday next, when I shall present also those of their Royal Highnesses. The Heats and Divisions that are amongst us, make them here regard our Words but little. I do confess, I do not take this to be the way to reduce the Exorbitant Power of *France*.

I have your's of the 16th. And am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

5 I

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 6. 1701.

I Presented yesterday His Majesty's Letters to this Court, with the Compliments usual on such an Occasion. I did not see the Dauphin, who was at *Meudon*, nor Madame, who gives no Audiences in forty days after Monsieur's death, which is till he be buried. I presented the Letters of their Royal Highnesses also to the King, and that matter seems to have passed to their satisfaction.

I do not find that the Address of the House of Commons has made any Alteration in relation to the Conferences at the *Hague*, and I do expect that they will go on much at the same rate as they have hitherto done, unless His Majesty be determined to bring that matter to some final Conclusion. They continue to do here what they take to be their Interest, and they are resolved to be superior to the *Germans* in *Italy*. Besides the twenty-seven Battalions and twenty Squadrons I mentioned before, there are now twenty Battalions more and some Horse ordered from *Alsace*. Their design is to avoid a decisive Battle, and to prevent the *Germans* from taking Winter-Quarters when all these Troops shall be arrived. I am told that this King has said at Table, that he should have ninety-six Battalions, and a hundred and fifty Squadrons in *Italy*. It is certain that the *French* desert extremely; so that there can be no computation made of the number of effective Men they have. Here is no account, at least none publickly known, of any thing since the Imperialists passed the *Adige*. If they come to want Money, their Provisions will fail them, and tho' the People is much for them now, that will change, when once they come to live upon free Quarters.

I take our Condition, rightly considered on all sides, not to be such as could be wished, tho' to me the greatest danger seems to be apprehended from ourselves at home. All that we have to depend on, is the Prince that governs us; and I do hope he will be as successful as he has hitherto been.

I have your's of the 19th past. And I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 9. 1701.

I Have the favour of your's of the 23d. And I do find that our Heats and Divisions are like to be appeased for some time, by the Prorogation of the Parliament, and that His Majesty is going for *Holland*, which I suppose will be before this arrives.

The Letters from *Italy* continue to say, that Prince *Eugene* is not passed the *Adige*; for tho' he has a Bridge at *Castel-Baldo*, yet the *French* are so posted on the other side, that there is no possibility for the *Germans* to advance towards the *Mantuan*. They seem to have thoughts of passing the *Po*, and are making a Bridge near *Castel-Guilielmo*. Their whole Army, consisting of thirty thousand Men, continues still near *Castel-Barco* and *Cologna*. The *French* are at present forty thousand Men. I send you the Copies of two Letters from the *French* Camp. It is certain that the *Germans* would fain force the passage at *Rivoli*, otherwise I cannot see how they can have their great Artillery, Provisions, &c. to come up.

I am told that *Holms* and *Handford*, two of the Assassins, are lately gone for *Holland*. The former speaks very good *Dutch*. They can have no good design. One Mr. *Richard Bagget* is coming from *England* to be Groom of the Bed-Chamber, in the room of Colonel *Slingsby* deceased.

I have inclosed an account of what has happened to the Lady *Gr——* here. I think her Relations should be informed of it, and at least her Estate, which is very considerable, should be preserved for her Children. She has been intirely in with those of *St. Germain*s, and she is lately returned from *Rome*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 13. 1701.

I Have the favour of your's of the 26th past, and I shall not fail to correspond with Mr. *Blathwayt*, for His Majesty's information, as I shall continue to do with you, tho' there will come very little worth your notice from hence till this Court can bring itself to admit of a Treaty in relation to the Emperor. It is generally thought now that there will be a War, and that soon; which does not in the least please here. The Declaration which Mr. *Stanhope* has made, has broke their measures, since I have reason to think that *Monf. d'Avaux* was playing another Game. The Duke of *Savoy* will not leave *Turin* till *Monf. de Castel Rodrigo* arrives, and the Ceremony of the Marriage is over. I suppose you know that he has acknowledged the King of *Prussia*.

They have here established a Company for the Trade to *Mexico* and *Peru*. Their Stock consists of six Millions *French*. The King of *Spain* has a fourth Part, the *French* King two Millions, and the Company the rest. They are to have the whole Trade, exclusive from all others, and without doubt little but the Produce of *France* will be sent on board the Galleons. There is also another Project for engrossing all the *Spanish* Wool. The first Year or two it will require a Stock of forty Millions *French*. They say that in *Languedoc* sixteen Millions are subscribed, the Merchants in the other Sea-Ports hope to do the like, and those of *Paris* twenty. The King is to be concerned also, and this Company is to have great Privileges granted them.

On Sunday last the late King was taken with another Fit of an Apoplexy, and it was thought he would not have lived an hour. His Eyes were fixed, and I hear yesterday he was ill again. He is so decay'd, and spits continually Blood and Matter, that by every Post you may expect to hear of his Death. In short, none think that he can outlive this Summer. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. I have just now received a Letter of the 21st past from Mr. *Methuen*. The Treaty betwixt *France* and *Portugal* was signed the 18th, and the next day he had an Audience of the King, and a Conference with the Secretary of State; but he could not get them to own whether it was so or no. All they declared, was, That they had done nothing to prejudice the Treaty between *England* and that Crown. I was in hopes to get a sight of this Treaty, but there is no Copy come; only the Original for this King. There is some mystery still in that Matter; but since it is printed in the *French* Gazette, as a League Offensive and Defensive, *Portugal* should be made to explain that Matter. There is nothing from *Spain* of any moment.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, July 14. 1701.

I Have not had the honour to receive any Letters from your Excellency by this Post, nor to know, by consequence, if my Letters are come to you during that interval, and particularly those I had inclosed for H. M. the K. our Master; which, I must confess, makes me a little uneasy, in so nice a Con-juncture as this is. I continue nevertheless, my Lord, to send you word of what passes in these Quarters. It is not to be conceived how great a Horror the *Spaniards* entertain of a foreign Government, which threatens them very nearly, and holds them already, as one may say, by the Neck: The Murmurs and the Discontents are universal; every body grows impatient, the Court as well as the City, the Clergy, the Nobility, and the third State; in a word, all the States and Kingdoms of this Monarchy sigh after Liberty; yet no body dares to stir, fearing to be sooner overwhelmed than succoured. Among all the *Spaniards*, the Cardinal *Portocarrero* and his Cabal are perhaps the only Persons that attach themselves desperately to the *French* Party, and it looks

as if those Gentlemen had made a Vow to sacrifice *Spain* to it, and to engage all *Europe* in their fall.

The *French* Squadron at *Cadiz* is increased to the number of nineteen Ships of War, besides the Galleys and other Vessels; but the Retrenchments which the Count *d'Estree* has caused to be made to defend the Entry into the Puntals, have been thrown down by a violent Tide. The Duke of *Naxarra*, Captain-General of the Galleys of *Spain*, not thinking it proper to serve under the Command of the said Count, has demanded and obtained his dismissal, with Orders however to keep away from the Court. They equip at *Cadiz* two *Spanish* Men of War, called the *Capitana* and the *Almirante*, the only Ships that are able to go to Sea this Year. The first is to be commanded by the *Spanish* Admiral, and the other by a *French* Officer: but there is no more talk about equipping the Galleons, because they find the dispatching of them impracticable before the Fleet from *Mexico*, which is expected in *September* or *October* next, shall be arrived.

The Duke of *Harcourt* is gone to the *Sarenela*, a Pleasure-House of the King's, a League from hence. His Catholick Majesty goes frequently to see him, under the pretext of Hunting. This Court sent last Week an extraordinary Courier to that of *Portugal*, with the Ratification of the Treaties, and he is soon expected back with the reciprocal Ratification of that Crown. The Vice-Royalty of *Naples* is continued to the Duke of *Medina Celi* for three Years longer, to attach him still the stronger to the service of the King. They fear here very much the Genius of the *Italians*, and above all, their Inclination for the House of *Austria*, whose Interest it is apprehended they will espouse openly upon the first Advantages the Imperial Arms will gain. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 15. 1701.

I Received yours of the 23d. I had directions from Mr. Secretary *Vernon* to correspond with you, for His Majesty's Information, which I shall constantly do. I cannot but repeat the same I wrote often, that I cannot see any prospect that this Court will consent to a Satisfaction for the Emperor. That is of such a nature, that they say that the worst that can happen is that; and if they should have ill Success in *Italy*, or elsewhere, they could but be obliged to that at last. I suppose that *Monf. d'Avaux* will explain himself in some measure to the King; tho', if I am not mistaken, all they will do, will be to amuse us, and to prevent any Action in *Flanders*. I do think that the Declaration which Mr. *Stanhope* has made, ought to bring Affairs to some certainty, which I think is to be wished for, for the Good of *Europe*. It has certainly broke their Measures here, as has also the part *Monf. d'Avaux* seemed to act in *Holland*. It will be very necessary that I should be informed of what passes with you, (and I suppose you have my Cypher) else I shall not be able to judge of things here, nor give such Answers as are proper when I discourse with *Monsieur de Torcy*.

Here are Letters from *Italy* of the 8th, but an exact State of the Affairs there is not to be learnt. I was yesterday to make my Court to the King at *Meudon*, and I do find that things do not go to their satisfaction. So much is owned, that Prince *Eugene* has joined his whole Army together, and did seem to intend to march over the *Po*. A considerable Body, at least 4000 Men, were passed, they having finished their Bridge at *Palenton*. *Monf. de Catinat* had done the like at *Ostilia*, and *Monf. Crenan*, who was posted at *Rivoli*, had orders to join him; so that the Passage is intirely free for the *Germans*. This March makes People believe that they expect to find Magazines in the *Ferrarese*, and that there is a good Understanding between the Emperor, the Duke of *Modena*, &c. I am told that *Monf. de Catinat* has Orders to give Battle, when all the Troops that are lately ordered for *Italy* arrive, which will not be till the beginning of next Month, if so soon.

I send you such Accounts as I have of the Treaty with *Portugal*, both from *Madrid* and *Lisbon*. I had those Articles, which I have inclosed, from another hand.

I acquainted Mr. *Stanhope* in my last, that the late King *James* was so ill, that his Life was despaired of. He is better now, but none think that he can outlive this Summer, he being extreamly decayed. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 16. 1701.

OUR Letters by the ordinary Post from *Italy* of the 30th past, and 2d instant, give us some light into what is kept very secret here. Prince *Eugene* had received 44 Pieces of great Cannon, and 25 of a lesser Size, with a considerable number of Troops, Ammunition, and Provision, as also Money to pay his Army, which having passed the *Po* in three places, viz. at *Francolino*, *Lago Oscuro*, and *Palantone*, the Town of *Ferrara* had sent the Marquis *Alfonso Bevilacqua* to the Prince, to desire that he would keep an exact Discipline. His Highness gave them all the Assurances imaginable, and sent them the inclosed Paper. They write further, that a great many Ladies, and other People of Quality, had been to see the *German* Camp; which shews that they are like to meet with a good Reception. The Letters from *Milan* of the 5th say, that a Party of 400 *German* Horse was advanced to *Final* in the *Modenese*. Three days ago arrived here a Courier from *Italy*, with Letters of the 8th, which own that the Imperialists had passed a considerable part of their Army over the *Po*; that Monsi. *de Catinat* had posted some Troops at *La Stellata*, and had withdrawn those from *Rivoli*, and it was thought that he would also march over the *Po* at *Ostiglia*. Yesterday arrived another Courier: but I cannot learn any thing. It is thought that the Prince of *Vaudemont*, who is at *Milan* taking the Oaths of Allegiance to the new King of *Spain*, of all the Magistrates and People, is glad of that pretence to leave the Army, not being satisfied with Monsi. *de Catinat*'s Conduct in letting the *Germans* advance so far into *Italy*. Prince *Eugene* expects soon a Reinforcement of 10,000 Men. I hear from all parts, that the *Germans* are much better received than the *French*, and that they keep very good Order, and have paid pretty well. The Emperor has assured the *Venetian* Ambassador at *Vienna*, that what still remains due shall be forthwith paid; and his Ambassador has done the like at *Venice*. The *Spanish* Ambassador at *Rome* has again demanded the Investiture for *Naples* and *Sicily*, in very high Terms; but it had no Effect on the Pope. Upon the whole matter, they seem here to think that the Affairs of *Italy* begin to be very serious, which would make one hope that they would consent to a reasonable Satisfaction for the Emperor. I am of opinion, that they will stay 'till it is too late, and nothing can bring us well out of all this Embroil but a War. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 18. 1701.

WE have an account here, by an Officer who arrived out of *Italy* on the 16th, that there had passed a considerable Action between the Imperialists and the *French* at *Carpi*, where Monsi. *de St. Fremont* was posted with four Regiments of Dragoons, a Regiment of Horse, a Battalion or two of Foot, and some Pieces of Cannon. Prince *Eugene* having amused the *French*, by passing some Troops over the *Po*, they little expected to have heard of him in this place; but he has acted, as they all agree, very much like a General. The Canal *Blanco* was between them. He made a shew as if he would pass, several of his Men went into the Canal to try if it was fordable, there they continued firing at the *French*: whilst this was doing, he made two Bridges, at a good distance from his Troops, above and below. When this was done, he withdrew his Troops, as if all was over; but soon

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after he marched a considerable Body of Troops over both places with Cannon, &c. and then fell on *Monf. de St. Fremont*, and intirely defeated his Troops, making himself Master of the Post of *Carpi*, the Baggage, the Cannon, &c. The Chevalier *d'Albert*, Son of the Duke *de Chevreuse*, and Colonel of Dragoons, as also *Monf. de Carbon*, a Person of Distinction, are kill'd; *Monf. d'Estrades* is dangerously wounded, 25 other Officers are kill'd, and the rest fled for it. Prince *Eugene* was there in person, and received a slight Wound. They say here, that he was posted at *Carpi*, upon the *Adige*, when the Express came away, with 15000 Men, and there is no doubt but his whole Army has join'd him; so that there is nothing between him and *Monf. de Catinat*, who is posted at *St. Pietro*, near *Legnago*, and they are seven Miles distant from each other. *Monf. de Catinat* has ordered all his Troops to join him from *Rivoli*, &c. They are very uneasy at *Versailles*, it being thought that Prince *Eugene* will attack the French Army, which has no way of avoiding a Battle, but by retiring over the *Mincio*. It is not known what Loss the Germans had. This King goes on Wednesday next to *Marly*, and the Voyage to *Fontainebleau* is fixed for the 22d of September. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R

Paris, July 20. 1701.

I Hear from *Holland* that His Majesty landed on Thursday last at nine in the Morning, and was to be that Night at the *Hague*. I must acquaint you, that before I received His Majesty's Orders, with the Petition of *John Barbier*, condemned to the Gallies; I had done all that lay in my power, he having applied to me at first: but the last Answer I had from *Monf. de Torcy* was, That the King had considered the several Memorials I had given; but as this *Barbier* was condemned according to Law, the King could not shew any Favour in a Case of that nature. I have nevertheless given in another Memorial, and I did press *Monf. de Torcy*, shewing him the great Hardship. He gives me fair Words, but I expect little good from it, I have yours of the 31st past, and 3d instant to acknowledge. Mr. *Powis* has also acquainted me, that he had received the Money, you mention, on my account. I with the Lords of the Treasury were as punctual. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 22. 1701.

A Person with whom I correspond has desired, that the inclosed may be delivered to Mr. *Johnston*, who was formerly Secretary of *Scotland*, together with a Letter for the Duke of *Queensborough*. The matter contained in these Letters is this: One Captain *Johnston*, Brother to Lord *Annan-dale*, and one of those Captains in *Dunbarton's* Regiment, which at the Revolution marched with the said Regiment into the Isle of *Ely*, which you cannot but remember, and who since that time has continued at *St. Germain's*, would gladly obtain His Majesty's Pardon, and Leave to return home; which he hopes to do by means of the Duke of *Queensborough*, or else to be recommended to the Emperor's Service: he, as well as many others, would be glad to leave this place, having little to subsist on. He has opened his mind to this Person, and would have had him go for *England*, so he was forced to promise to send the inclosed safe. Therefore, that it may not fall into other hands, I desire you would give it, but take no notice of the Contents, unless it is mentioned to you. He does not know that this Person is any ways concern'd with me. I have had several Proposals, and in case His Majesty would recommend them to the Emperor, there are numbers of *Irish* Officers that would quit this Service. I do not doubt but the four Regiments of *Irish*, that are sent into *Italy*, would do the same, if they had Encouragement given them, and perhaps they may go without it. As they are all Papists,

Papists, you know they can't serve His Majesty : besides that, it would not be very advisable to take them, after what has passed, and that makes them propose the Service of the Emperor. The *Irish* have been ill treated here, and they resent it as much as they dare. One *Dicks*, or one who goes by that Name here, and who keeps an Eating-House, tho' he can hardly live, is gone for *England*, and is soon to return. He went with one *Philips*, who was formerly Valet de Chambre to the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, by the way of *Dieppe*, and so to *Rye*. I am told that *Dicks* carries Letters from *St. Germain*s. I should think you would do well to send for *Philips* to come to you, and in case he denies that there is such a Person come over with him, then you may be sure there is more in that matter, and that he is himself concerned. He comes often here, under pretence of buying things. *Dicks* says he is a Protestant, and he comes often to my Chappel. He came over with the late King, and he has continued here ever since; so he is liable to the Act of Parliament. I am of opinion, that if you meet him, you will soon discover what he came about. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 22. 1701.

SINCE my last to you I have seen *Monf. de Torcy*, and I do not find this Court in any sort of Disposition to agree to a Satisfaction for the Emperor. I see *Monf. d'Avaux* has represented here what Mr. *Stanhope* told him, so that they are extremely incens'd both at the Matter and the Manner. This has certainly broke their Measures, and it is likely to bring us to some Determination, which I believe they do not desire here. I did endeavour to find out what methods they intended to follow, and how *Monf. d'Avaux* was to act; but I could not perceive that he had any thing else to do, but to hear what would be proposed to him: he repeated several times to me, that he thought that *Monf. d'Avaux*'s Stay would not be long; and to tell you plainly, they take here the War to be certain. What may change the Affairs is the Success in *Italy*, whence we expect every day the News of a Battle. *Monf. de Catinat* has Orders to attack the *Germans* wherever he can, and therefore, the two Armies being so near each other, there must soon be some Action. The General-Officers, designed for the *Rhine*, are all gone, and those for *Flanders* will go in a few days. *Monf. de Guiscard* has leave to return from *Sweden*, and there is none named to succeed him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 23. 1701.

I Have the favour of yours of the 7th. The Declaration which Mr. *Stanhope* has made was resented here, and both the Matter and Manner represented by *M. d'Avaux* in strong lights. I wonder I am still here, which is very disagreeable, and I may at last receive some Affront, or be sent away. I am told, that it is under Consideration, whether this Court should declare War against the Emperor, by putting out a *Manifesto*, and there is no doubt but they will do the same to us, in case our Alliance goes on, and that the Conferences continue as they do. I do assure you that they take here the War to be certain, and that the only Point now is, who shall declare first. *Monf. de Torcy* told me, that he thought that *Monf. d'Avaux*'s Stay would not be long.

I find that my Lord *Sunderland* does not like our Proceedings, by his saying, that he will come no more to Town. Lord *Rocheſter* will, I suppose, be back before the Meeting of the Parliament, if he goes at all to *Ireland*.

Our Letters by the ordinary Post from *Venice*, &c. say that Prince *Eugene* has received all his Cannon, to the number of 106; that his Army consists of about 40,000 Men, and that they were passing the *Po*; and it was concluded that by the 10th (the Day when the Letters from *Verona* came away) the whole Army was passed into the *Ferrareſe*, and some were advanced into the *Modeneſe*, at *Finale*, and in the Dutchy of

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Mirandola; that the last Action at *Carpi* was only to cover this March, and that Prince *Eugene* had quitted *Carpi*. The *Germans* get the better in all these small Actions; they let all the *Spanish* Prisoners they take go, and retain only the *French*, &c. The *Marschal de Villeroy* has marched most of his Forces into the Dutchy of *Limbourg*, and all the King's Household is to join him. They take their Measures here, and I hope we do the same. As to King *James*, they look upon him as gone, and the P. Prince is now the only Subject of Discourse. You may imagine how they will act in relation to him. I am of opinion, that they will shew but little value of a good Understanding in a point of that nature. I have had no Letters since His Majesty's Arrival at the *Hague*, but I expect some this afternoon. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 25. 1701.

I Have the favour of yours of the 19th, and I have sent the inclosed to *Madrid* and *Lisbon*. I should think it so much the Interest of the Emperor, that His Majesty should be informed of what passes in *Italy*, by Expresses from Prince *Eugene*, that I write little about it. Every thing here is made a Secret of, except when it is to their advantage, and then only they publish it. I am told, that *Mont. d'Avaux* has Orders to return, in case any thing relating to the Emperor is insisted on, and, as I have already acquainted you, that they take the War to be inevitable. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 27. 1701.

I Was unwilling to stay 'till Friday, which is the Post-day, and I send this to Mr. *Marmande* at *Brussels*, in hopes of his finding a way to convey it to you the sooner, &c. It is believed that the *French* Troops will soon be in all the strong places belonging to the Elector of *Cologne*: but they are to pass for hired Auxiliary Troops. I do not mention the Motion of *Messieurs de Villeroy* and *de Tallard*. His Majesty must be better informed of that a nearer way. I hope you will receive this much sooner than if it went by the Post to the *Hague*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, July 28. 1701.

I Thank your Excellency for the Letter you have honoured me with of the 10th instant; and as it seems that Affairs are at a Crisis, the Event of which gives no less a Subject of Apprehension than of Hope; I have reflected how much it concerns the Subjects of H. M. the King our Master, trading and residing in these Kingdoms, to be advertised before hand, in case a Rupture be inevitable and near at hand: They have also instantly desired it of me, and they frequently renew their Instances; and I believed, that I ought no longer to defer to give your Excellency advice of it, as to the Minister, who is most capable to communicate to me good and certain Lights in a Point of so great Consequence. It is therefore, my Lord, that I beg of you to have the Goodness, as soon as you shall observe, that we must no more expect an Accommodation, to give me presently advice of it by an extraordinary way, the quickest and securest you can find, that so I may, immediately after receiving it, dispatch secretly extraordinary Messengers to all the Ports in these Kingdoms, that thus the *English* Merchants may stand upon their guard, as in effect they have began to do it, and that they may finish their necessary Precautions for the Security of their Effects: I promise myself this from the Zeal of your Excellency, for the Service of H. M. as also from your Attachment to the Interests of the Nation. The last Advices from *England* and *Holland* cause here a new Consternation among that part of the

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the Court, which has given itself up absolutely to *France*; whilst the strict Alliance, betwixt the two first named Powers and the Emperor, together with the happy Harmony betwixt the King our Master and His Parliament, causes that Party to fear that *France* must become more reasonable, which they think cannot be brought about, without some dismembring of the Monarchy; but the Court of *Spain* must conform itself to what *France* shall judge convenient.

On the 11th instant arrived five other *French* Men of War, and two Fireships at *Cadiz*, from *Brest*, under the Conduct of the Marquis *de Villette*; so that the *French* Squadron, that is there, consists now of 24 Men of War, five Fireships, and two Bomb-Vessels. There are about 3000 Men in garrison at *Cadiz*, all Foot; as for the 800 Horse they canton them in the Villages thereabout. The Garrison of *Gibraltar* consists but of about 500 Men; but we don't hear that they work, at either of those Cities, on the Fortifications, of which the *French* Engineers had drawn the Plans. There is so general a want of Money, that they find it very difficult even to find any for the most common Necessities: This makes them fear that they shall not find enough for the Expence of the King's Journey towards *Aragon* and *Catalonia*. They have asked the Clergy for a free Gift, and an Advance from the Farmers and Contrólers of the Royal Rents; but the one and the other cry out Mercy. In a word, the Scarcity and Misery reigns universally, and the Will of the late King *Charles* the Second of happy Memory, will cost *France* dear: for unless they open their Coffers to repair the horrible Emptiness of the *Spanish* Finances, this Court cannot support itself, and the least War will overwhelm it. The Murmurs, which are caused by so universal a Decay, go so far, that they have thought it necessary to inspire the *Spaniards* with fear, by putting some Strangers in Prison, who are said to have talked too freely. The Duke of *Arcos*, one of the first Grandees of *Castile*, has himself put into the King's hands a Representation, by which he makes excuses, that he cannot equal himself to the Dukes and Peers of *France*. The young Courtiers dress themselves in the *French* Fashion, to please the King, who has shewn that he desires it. The Habits for the Archers, or Life-Guards, as also those of all the Livery-Men, are come out of *France*, and that Livery is the same with that of the House of *Bourbon*; so that the Livery of the ancient Kings of *Spain* is banished. Mr. *Aglionby* did set out the 24th instant by the way of *Bayonne*. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, July 29. 1701.

I Hope you will have received mine of the 27th, which I sent by the way of *Brussels*, and I have little to add to it. I had yesterday a Conference with M. *de Torcy*, and I found him not satisfied with the Proceedings at the *Hague*; and upon my taking notice that Mons. *d' Avaux* had Orders to return, he did in a manner own it, and said that he was sent only to treat with *England* and *Holland*, in relation to their Securities, and that he had nothing to do with the Pretensions of the Emperor. I enlarged on that Subject, as I have often done, shewing him the necessity there was of putting an end to the War in *Italy*, and that I could not see else how the Peace of *Europe* could be preserved. His Answer was, That he did not doubt but they were able to maintain the Rights of the King of *Spain*; that as M. *d' Avaux* had been there near six Months, and since there was no Appearance that the Conferences could be continued, he had nothing to do but to come away. I then took notice to him, that then there would be no Minister of theirs either in *England* or *Holland*. He said, they should leave a Secretary, and if we were disposed afterwards to renew a Treaty, Means might easily be found out to treat. It is certain, that this Court will not consent to any thing concerning the Emperor, since that must tend to the dismembring of the *Spanish* Monarchy; and I am fully satisfied, that whatever the Emperor is to have, he must gain it by main Force, which they take here to be more honourable for them than the yielding any thing by Treaty. Besides they Judge, that it

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is always in their power, after the worst that can happen, to have a Peace on such Terms. The Progress which Prince *Eugene* has made already, is so considerable, that we may expect he will succeed farther. It will at last depend upon a Battle, which *Monf. de Catinat* has Orders to give, and to oppose the Passage of the *Mincio*. I am told, that that River is now almost dry in several places, which will make the Passage easier. I have inclosed again the last account we had here from *Italy*, as also the Extract of a Letter I lately received from *Madrid*, that so His Majesty may see how things are there. Till I have some farther Instructions, and am informed how they proceed at the *Hague*, it is to no purpose for me to repeat again the same things to *Monf. de Torcy*. If *Monf. d'Avaux* does actually come away, then I cannot but think they will put something in Execution, and it may possibly be the Siege of *Maestricht*, which they will pretend belongs to the King of *Spain* by an old Treaty. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, July 30. 1701.

I Do not doubt but my Advices of the 27th have given great Satisfaction in *England*. I did that same day acquaint His Majesty, and also Mr. *Stanhope* with it, by the way of *Brussels*. We have now a full Relation of the Action at *Carpi*. Prince *Eugene* received a slight Wound, and had two Horses killed under him. All his Troops have now joined him, and his Bridge is broke, tho' he keeps the Boats still on his own Side, in case there should be occasion. He sent a Compliment to the Cardinal Legate at *Ferrara*, and he expressed a great concern he had, at his being obliged to pass into the State of the Church, in order to oppose the Enemy: but he would order his Troops to retire the moment there was no further occasion, he having all the Duty and Deference for the Pope. This has pleased extremely at *Rome*. Here is an Express come from *Turin*, with advice that *Monf. de Castel Rodrigo* was arrived there on the 20th, that the Contract of Marriage was signed, and that the Duke of *Savoy* was set out by Post on the 24th for the Army, where it was expected he would arrive the same day. We shall now soon see in what manner he will act; for as none can as yet judge what his Intentions are, so I fancy he is under great Difficulties, and it cannot be long e'er we hear of some considerable Action. You must needs know that things go pretty well in *Germany* for the publick Good: nevertheless I should be glad *Europe* was well out of the posture it is in, all which will depend much on the manner we take things in, in *England*. I acknowledge the favour of yours of the 14th, and I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 3. 1701.

I Had yesterday my Audience of Madame, when I presented His Majesty's Letter, and those of their Royal Highnesses. On Saturday next I am to have my Audience of the Dauphin. You will have heard all that has passed at the *Hague*. *Monf. d'Avaux* is expected here soon. I acquainted His Majesty with this matter on his first coming to *Holland*, and he will forgive me, if I have shewed an Uneasiness at being here. I know very well that Orders must now soon come from *Holland*. I have long feared, that we flattered ourselves with the Thoughts, that this Court might come to such an Accommodation, as would secure the Liberty of *Europe*, which was never my Opinion; and I take it now to be plain, tho' it will be every day more so. I have yours of the 17th past. As for M. *Chateau-Renault*, I do believe he is still at *Brest*. I have made what Enquiry I can, and here they all believe so; tho' some of his Ships may be sailed for *Cadiz*, and I hear of six. I know that he waited to see which way our Fleet is designed. We have no News from *Italy*. I am very much obliged to my Lord *Godolphin*. What I desire at present of the Lords of the Treasury is,

is, that they would pay me one Quarter, in case they cannot conveniently do more. It will be some help to me. I may possibly leave this place of a sudden, and I must clear off all I owe, which is very considerable, as you may imagine by the Arrears that are due to me. I desire you will deliver

the inclosed to my Lord of *Canterbury*, who will acquaint you with the Contents.

Monf. *de Villars*, the French Ambassador at *Vienna*, is recalled. Here is nothing talked of but War. At Court they pretend, that they will not be the Aggressors. You will soon see how they understand that, by the March of Monf. *de Villeroy*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 5. 1701.

ON Thursday last I had my Audience of Madame. She expressed herself in all the obliging Terms that were possible in relation to his Majesty. I suppose I shall soon send you a Letter from her, as also from the rest of the Court. To-morrow I go to *Versailles*, to have an Audience of the Dauphin, which is my last Audience. We have here the Memorial of M. *d'Avaux*, and by my next I expect the Answer of the States. I have seen M. *de Torcy*, but I had little discourse with him. I told him that the Memorial seem'd to be a sort of Manifesto; that the Complaint of our Ships founding their Ports, did surprise me, since he knew very well how they had treated a Yacht of His Majesty at *Brest*, and imprisoned the Captain only upon suspicion; and that besides, I might take notice of the usage His Majesty's Subjects had received; that one was condemned to the Gallies, for being in company with some *Frenchmen*, pretended to be Protestants, tho' there were not the least proofs of his endeavouring to have them make their escape. I asked him when he expected M. *d'Avaux*. He said, that he would stay till he had an Answer. The Memorial was read in Council, and sent him as you see it. M. *de Villars* is recalled from *Vienna*, and the Emperor's Envoy here expects to be recalled. I must wait to hear from you how His Majesty intends to dispose of me, tho' I cannot see what service my stay here can be of. Here are Letters from *Italy* of the 28th. The Duke of *Savoy* was arrived in the French Camp. The Armies were still in their old Posts; the *French* at *Goito*, and the *Germans* at *Villa Franca*. It was expected that they would soon engage, being only six Miles from each other. All the General Officers named for *Flanders* have Orders to go thither immediately. The Duke *de Maine* and the Count *de Toulouse* don't go yet. The Marshal *de Villeroy* was by the last Advices, by *Thionville*, where the King's Household is to join him on the 6th instant. This makes some conjecture he has a design against *Maastricht*, tho' it is more likely to march into *Keisarswaert*, *Rhinberg*, &c. with the consent of the Elector of *Cologne*. I hope His Majesty continues in good health, and then we need fear nothing. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, August 8. 1701.

I Have very little to acquaint you with, there being nothing of moment from *Italy*, that is known. They own here that the Answer of the States-General is very respectful; but I am assured there is nothing to be done, as long as they insist on the Satisfaction of the Emperor. M. *d'Avaux's* Courier was sent back to him yesterday, with Orders to come away. They say that all we do is only to amuse them, and that it is not for the King's Honour to leave a Minister there. I wish His Majesty would have the same Thought in relation to me: for things may grow worse, but it is not possible they should grow better, neither will my being recalled in the least alter their measures. M. *de Zinzendorf* expects to take his leave the next Week, having had Advice that his Orders were signed. It is said, that M. *de Villeroy* is marching towards *Cologne*, and that he will be there on the 15th. If he attacks that Place, I cannot see how they understand what they have hitherto declared,

declared, that is, that they will not be the Aggressors: but I suppose that it is done only to assist the Elector, in case the Chapter does not behave as it ought. I can tell you none here doubt of a War, and it is the only discourse, even at Court. I have yours of the first from the *Hague*: And I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, August 10. 1701.

I Believe the Account of Prince *Eugene's* March will very much surprise you, as it does most People here. On Monday last arrived here a Courier from Prince *Vaudemont*. The Letters are of the 3d. On the 28th past 600 German Horse marched over the *Mincio* at *St. Lione*, between *Peschiera* and *Borghetto*, where the *French* were posted. M. de *Catinat* would not believe that they intended to pass there; but Prince *Eugene* having made his Bridge for the Foot, and the River being fordable in many places, 10000 Horse passed, and the next day the whole Army, and they continued their march to *Desenzano*. Upon this, M. de *Catinat* held a Council of War on Horseback, to resolve whether they should advance, and give Battle: but they were soon informed, that Prince *Eugene* was no longer there, and that he was gone towards *Brescia*, and having got two days march before them, the Prince of *Vaudemont* and Count *Tesse*, with most of the Horse and Dragoons, made all the haste they could, and were come to *Picoghitone* in the *Cremonese* upon the *Adda*. The Duke of *Savoy* and M. de *Catinat*, with the rest of the Army, had passed *Caneto*, upon the *Oglio*, and were expected that Night at *Cremona*. It was thought that their intention was to get if possible to the *Adda*, to cover the *Milanese*. Prince *Eugene* was passed the *Oglio*, and it is believed he would soon be at *Canonica*, upon the *Adda*. The Duke of *Savoy* was, as soon as he came to the Army, of opinion to pass the *Mincio*, and give Battle: but that was not agreed to. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, August 11. 1701.

I Have received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 24th of July. On the 7th instant arrived here an extraordinary Courier from *France*, with news that a Squadron of *English* and *Dutch* Men of War, provided and victualled for all the Month of *February* of next Year, had received Orders to sail immediately for the *Mediterranean*. The Council of State was forthwith assembled to deliberate about what was to be done, and they have thought it proper to consult with the Cardinal *d'Estrée*, to learn what Orders he has about this, especially if this Squadron should pretend to go in, and sail out freely at the Ports of *Spain*, as formerly; for the Court of *Spain* will regulate the Orders they are to send to the Governors and Commanders of the Sea-Ports, according to those Orders. They expect here back Mr. de *Casse*, who returns from *France*, and who is to go to the Isles of *St. Domingo*, of which he is made Governour. The *French* work Night and Day to make themselves absolute Masters of the Trade in the *Spanish* Islands, in order to ruin intirely that of *England* and *Holland*; but without doubt those two Powers will secure themselves against this. A certain *Frenchman*, called *Marin*, is arrived here, to propose Expedients for the re-establishment of the Finances: We are assured that he is very able in those Matters. The Count of *Evil* is recalled from his Government of *Cadiz*, that Employment being given to Don *Francisco Ronquillo*, the Brother of the late Ambassador of that Name; but Don *Scipio Brancaccio* will exercise it in the mean while. The King has been to make a Tour to *Toledo*, to make a Visit to the Queen Dowager, who has presented him with a Collar of the Golden Fleece of Gold, richly set with Diamonds, and besides with a Cup of Gold with its Saucer adorned with precious Stones and Pearls. The King's Journey towards *Catalonia* is put off to the Month of *September* next. I am, &c.

F. SCHONENBERG.

To

To Mr BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 12. 1701.

Monfieur Zinzendorf has received Orders, and takes leave of the whole Court on Tuesday next. He leaves no Secretary. The Letters inclosed for His Majesty are from the Dauphin, the Duke and the Dutcheſs of Burgundy, in answer to thoſe which I delivered at my Audiences, on the occaſion of the Death of the Duke of Orleans. By my laſt Letters from Spain, I had advice that Mr. Aglionby was ſet out on the 24th paſt for Paris. There were 24 French Men of War at Cadiz, including 5 that were newly come from Breſt under the Command of M. Villette, as alſo 2 French Bomb-Veſſels, and 3000 Spaniſh Foot-Soldiers. The Duke of Berwick is gone for Flanders, as are all the other General Officers that were named. Lieutenant General d'Uſon is going to Wolfenbuttel, to command the Forces of that Prince, whoſe Envoy is gone thither, but will ſoon be here again. The Envoy of Saxe-Gotha has had his firſt Audience, and is now to ſtay. There is no doubt but he is acting the ſame part here for his Maſter, as the other Envoy has done for the Duke of Wolfenbuttel. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

August 19. 1701.

Monf. l'Abbé de Bois has been to wait on me from the Duke of Orleans; who, after aſſuring me of the great Honour and Reſpect his Highneſs has for His Majesty, gave me to underſtand, that he hoped that there could be no Difficulty in what he deſired, in relation to the Style, whenever His Majesty did him the honour to write to him; that he was very ſenſible of the Honour of the Letter he had received, tho' he had not notified the Death of Monſieur, which he has acknowledged by the incloſed. You will ſee what his Pretenſions are by the Memorial. He did produce to me the Letters therein mentioned from King James, his Queen, and Queen Catharine, to Mademoiſelle d'Orleans. I did deſire he would aſſure the Duke of Orleans that I would not fail to repreſent that matter, and that I was perſuaded, that the King had that Conſideration for his Perſon, that he would not be wanting to ſhew it on all Occaſions. I think I need not enlarge on this Subject, tho' with great Submission, I cannot ſee but His Majesty may oblige him in this Caſe. Beſides, it may have been an Omiſſion in the Office, ſince it is certain, that this Diſtinction was made to Mademoiſelle d'Orleans, and the Duke of Orleans is upon a greater foot, having all the Honours here, which Monſieur had. I ſhall only add, that it will oblige Madame, and in ſhort the whole Court. Monf. de Torcy mentioned it to me, and in caſe His Majesty is reſolved on it, I may acquaint Monf. de Torcy with it, or the Duke of Orleans himſelf, according as you direct me. The laſt Letters from Italy are of the 10th. The Imperialiſts were encamped at Aſcola on the River Chieſe, and Monf. de Catinat at Caſtel-Franco, in the Cremonefe, on the other ſide of the Oglio. The Duke of Mantua has ſent Complaints how his Country was expoſed to the Germans. The Court gives him hopes that all ſhall be redreſſed, when Monf. de Villeroy arrives, which will be about the 21ſt. M. d'Avaux is expected here to-day. The Dutcheſs of Burgundy is out of danger, and this King returns to Verſailles on Saturday next, and on Tueſday M. Zinzendorf will have his Audiences of Leave. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 20. 1701.

I Have yours of the 4th, and I do find that Monf. Pouſſin cannot think what has paſſed in Italy poſſible; but I ſuppoſe by this time he is of another Opinion. We do find, by our ordinary Letters, that the French were ſo apprehenſive leſt Prince Eugene ſhould have marched to Milan, as he might have done, had it been his Intention, that they retreated in ſuch a Diſorder, that, wherever they paſſed, the People thought they were beaten and fled, and

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that

that the *Germans* followed them. I am assured, that they have lost 1200 Men by these continual Marches, &c. I suppose Sir *George Rook* is to sail. I should be glad to hear that he was on the Coast of *Portugal*, notwithstanding I am here. We shall have daily Expresses, as he passes along the Coast of *France*. I hear very seldom from Mr. *Blathwayt*, tho' I write to him by every Post: but as Affairs stand, I cannot but think I shall hear from him soon. The Abbot *Du Bois* has been with me from the Duke of *Orleans*. I have fully acquainted His Majesty with all that passed, and I believe there will be no great difficulty in obliging him with the Title he desires, whilst he has all the Honours his Father had. I thought it proper to acquaint you with it, and by the inclosed Memorial you will see his Reasons. If the Custom-house Officers at *Rye* were diligent, they would, by searching, find a great deal of Lace, and also Packets of Letters conveyed over by Passengers. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 22. 1701.

MONS. *d'Avaux* is arrived here, and I believe I shall see him to-morrow. I am told that this Court has sent a Minister to *Heilbron*, where the Deputies of the Circles are soon to meet. This Court is not satisfied with their Neutrality, since they permit the Imperial Troops to pass to the *Rhine*. This new Minister is to press them to declare their Intentions, that so the King his Matter may know what to rely on. It is said, that the *French* Minister at *Ratisbon* is not in the least satisfied. I should think, that all this might make them wish for an Accommodation; but still I am of opinion, that the Emperor can expect nothing but what he can gain by force. I fear my Letters lay long at the *Hague*. My Secretary has received one from Mr. *Cardonnel* from *Dieren* but yesterday, tho' it was dated the 1st. If so, His Majesty will be informed much sooner from other parts than from hence. Mons. *Zinzendorf* is gone this Morning to *Versailles*, to have his Audience of Leave. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 26. 1701.

I Have seen Mons. *d'Avaux*, who expresses himself extremely sensible of the Honours he received from His Majesty, and he does us justice in saying, that we are not desirous of a War, and that we should be glad there were means found out to preserve the Peace of *Europe*: but most of the Ministers here are of another Opinion. Mons. *de Chateaurenault* has Orders to sail from *Brest*, if he is not sailed already, with 12 Men of War, but I cannot learn whither he goes. Mons. *Mongon* sailed on the 12th with two Men of War, one Fireship, Twenty-five Land-Officers, and four Ships with Provisions, to join Mons. *de Coetlogon* in the *West-Indies*. You have often heard of Count *Boselli*, who is in the *Bastile*, as they say, on His Majesty's account. He presses me every day to intercede for him, protesting his Innocence, and offering to go where I shall order him, &c. I desire to know what Answers I shall make. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Orange, Aug. 28. 1701.

I Have three days since delivered the Letter, of which you will here see the Copy, and which Mr. *Robethon* writes to the Chapter of *Orange*, about the Money of the *Perecation*, which our Church is to demand of them in the next Month of *May*. These Gentlemen of the Chapter have thought fit, after having read it, to address themselves to me, to know what Agreement may be made, they being disposed to agree. I told them, that as to Our Church, they could not enter into an Agreement, because they had borrowed, being

being forced by a Resolution of the Council of State, of H. M. Chr. M. which they had never owned, the Sum of 1364 Livres, to give it them; so that it was their business to pay it, and to agree with the Persons to whom it was due, whilst they had unjustly applied to another Prince, instead of applying to their Sovereign, which Prince had ordered it at a time, when he had no Right to it: but that I advised them to apply to your Excellency by the Mediation of the Nuncio, or some body else, that you might have the Goodness to intercede with His Majesty in their favour, that it might please the King to pay some Interest of this borrowed Sum. The Gentlemen have approved of my Advice, and they have this day wrote to the Nuncio, who, doubtless, will talk about it to your Excellency, or will make *M. de Torcy* speak about it. The Chapter is disposed to pay the Sum. As to the Interest, your Excellency will see whether you will have the Charity for these Gentlemen to make His Majesty come into it. I have engaged myself to write pressingly to your Excellency in their favour. I beg of you, if you think it fit, to grant them your Protection, and to bring it about, that it may please the King to grant them a part of this Interest, or all of it. The Interest of the Sum of 1364 Livres at five in the Hundred a Year, comes in 17 Years, that is, since the Year 1687, to 1159 Livres, 8 Sols. I hope your Excellency will be favourable to the Gentlemen of the Chapter; I wish it may done by the Intercession of the Nuncio, not daring to flatter myself in any thing where he is. I know that said Minister interests himself strongly in that Affair, and that he will speak in that manner to your Excellency, who will do me the favour to be persuaded of the profound Respect, with which I am, &c.

LUBIERES.

P. S. I beg your Excellency to order me whether you will have this Affair tried or not. Our Church will wait for your Orders to act accordingly.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 29. 1701.

THE two inclosed Letters for His Majesty are from Madame and the Dutches of *Orleans*, in answer to those which I presented at my Audiences. King *James* is extream weak. It is thought that the Gout is got into his Stomach. Others say, that he has an Ulcer there, for he does continually spit Blood. He is at present so bad, that he can hardly speak or breathe. None think he can last long. Lord and Lady *Kildair* are come here, and intend to go to *England* by the way of *Calais*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Aug. 31. 1701.

I Have the favour of yours of the 14th instant, and I am much obliged to the Duke of *Somerset*. As to my coming over, tho' my being in *England* is very necessary for my private Affairs, yet I shall never prefer them to the publick; neither would it be proper to leave this Court in such a Manner, as Affairs stand now. I did believe I might have received Orders upon *M. d'Avaux's* coming away, but I suppose His Majesty is not yet determin'd; and the reason I do not press for Orders, is, that I take it for granted, that I shall have them before the King returns to *England*. Nevertheless if you can give me some light into that Matter, you will oblige me. I saw yesterday *M. de Torcy*, who is very well satisfied in relation to the Ship I wrote to you about. *Monf. d'Uson*, who is to command the Duke of *Wolfenbuttel's* Troops, &c. has also the Character of a Minister, and is to reside as such at *Wolfenbuttel*. *Monf. Bonac*, who was there, is named for *Sweden*, in the place of *M. de Guiscard*, who is come away. As to what you write about *M. de Courcy*, there is no doubt about what his Business was, and I think the Master of the Vessel must needs give the best account. I know not which way to be informed, but I shall judge by *Monf. de Torcy*, in case he mentions it to me,

as you may possibly by *Monf. Pouffin*. I can only tell you, that they apprehend our Fleet extreamly. King *James* is very ill again. Some think he may have an Ulcer in his Stomach. He hopes still to go to *Fontainebleau*, but I know this Court will prevent it, because he might very likely die there, which would be inconvenient. I am just now told that Count *Boselli*, whom you have heard much of, has last Night made his Escape out of the *Bastile*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 2. 1701.

I N my Letter of the 26th past, I desired to know His Majesty's Pleasure concerning Count *Boselli*. I must now acquaint you that he has made his Escape out of the *Bastile*, with a new Invention of a Ladder, which is supposed to come from *Italy*. As far as I am yet informed, this Court had no hand in this Escape, and they seem to be much displeased. They have imprison'd his Mother, his Wife, and his Sons, who came lately from *Italy*; and they have sent Couriers to all Parts to stop him. I cannot tell where he will be able to go, unless it be into *Germany*. Here is Advice, that the Marshal *de Villeroy* arrived in the *French* Army, in *Italy*, on the 22d past. Yesterday arrived a Valet de Chambre of *Monf. de Catinat*, but it is not known what News he brought. I find the *French* are not disposed to give battle, whilst the Country is so much for the Emperor. I believe you may hear Reports about *Monf. Calliere's* going into *Holland* with new Proposals: but I assure you it is not so, and this Court is far from being inclined to make any. I am still of Opinion, that they take the War to be certain, and they will try the Success of it for some time, e'er they consent to the dismembring of the *Spanish* Monarchy; and the Emperor must expect nothing of that nature, unless he can obtain it by Force. The Emperor's Envoy is gone for *Cologne*, in his way to *Vienna*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Since I ended this Letter, a Gentleman is come to me from *M. de Torcy*, to acquaint me with the Escape of Count *Boselli*, and that this King has taken all the Measures imaginable to have him stopp'd; and Couriers are gone for this purpose to *Calais*, *Valenciennes*, *Brussels*, *Strasbourg*, *Lyons*, &c. He desired that I would let His Majesty know, that nothing should be wanting to seize him if possible.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 5. 1701.

I Did not receive yours of the 14th past 'till the 2d instant, and it was the first since you left the *Hague*. The next day I had one of yours of the 28th, which came as it ought. The fault must be with the Post-Master at the *Hague*, where my Letters are directed. I shall send my Letters for the future to Mr. *Stanhope*, and I desire you will do the same. I am glad to find that His Majesty is so well disposed to gratify the Duke of *Orleans*. I shall write fully upon that subject to Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, and I do not doubt but I shall remove any Objection he shall make. I am the more zealous in it, since I take it to be for His Majesty's Service, and I cannot see that it can be of any consequence. I know the King gives the Grand Duke the Title of Brother, and the Ceremonial between the Grand Duke and the Duke of *Orleans* will be on the same foot to each other. He is here as a Grandson of *France*, and has, in all respects, all the Honours which his Father had. It was mentioned to me, that if there should be an Objection made to the word *Monsieur*, they desire, as I take it, that His Majesty would treat him in the Letter with *Altesse* sometimes. I suppose you observed how the Duke of *Orleans's* Letter was directed to His Majesty, with the word *Monseigneur mon Cousin*. I can tell you it was at Court thought too much; but he was resolved to do it. As to those Letters that are mentioned in the Memorial, I can assure you that the Fact is so, and I read them.

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is a Courier arrived from the Marechal *de Villeroy* with Letters of the 29th past. The Marechal held on the 26th a Council of War, and there declared, that he had Orders to march directly to the Enemy, and give them battle. He made Bridges over the *Oglia* near *Urago*, and on the 28th at night the whole Army was in march, consisting of 92 Squadrons, and 69 Battalions, the rest of the Troops having been ordered to *Como*, *Cremona*, &c. King *James* was taken on Friday last with fainting Fits, which returned upon him yesterday. He was then so ill, that they gave him the extreme Unction, and he was thought a dying. There is a Report that he is dead, but I do not believe it; tho' by the Accounts I have, he cannot live 24 Hours. I do therefore expect every moment the News of his Death. I do not think of sending a Courier 'till I see a little how the Court of *France* will act, and whether they will own the P. Prince of *Wales*. By what I can learn, they are undetermin'd at present what to do, and whether they shall suffer those of *St. Germain*s to proclaim him. I will take care to inform His Majesty of every Step that is made. I am glad to hear that His Majesty's Health is so much improved of late. You cannot imagine how many Reports we have here about it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Loo, Sept. 5. 1701.

I Have received your Excellency's Letter of the 26th of *August* with all the Thankfulness imaginable. It is wrote with so much Solidity and Exactness, that I thought I could not do better than communicate it to the King, who has read it with a great deal of pleasure, and who has intimated, that nothing was more just than the Plan which your Excellency has formed to push the Affair of the Payment in question with Success. If they will stop you, by alledging the Pretensions of Madame *D'Isanghyen* (of which there is no Likelihood) your Excellency might say, that you are informed that the said Lady, renouncing all the ways for an Accommodation, has resolved to demand of the Grand Council of *Mechlin* to be put in possession of the Lands of His Majesty. And that therefore, whilst she takes that course, the Court of *France* has no Pretence left for stopping the Payment of the third Term, whilst it is no longer possible, that the Money that must come from it to us, by virtue of a Treaty signed and ratified, should be applied by an Accommodation to remove the Pretensions of Madame *D'Isanghyen*, whilst she takes courses so opposite to Friendliness. It is fit your Excellency should know that, at the Request of H. M. Chr. M. this Princess has obtained an Order from the Marquis of *Bedmar*, and of the Council of State of H. C. M. at *Brussels* for the Grand Council at *Mechlin*, ordering that the last mentioned Council shall proceed to judge, and to do Justice upon the Petition of the said Princess: and, that she might the easier obtain that Order, M. *de Ferriex* Master of the Requests, and M. *de Torcy* himself have given this Lady each of them a Certificate, importing that some Conferences had been held at *Paris* to accommodate this Lady with H. B. M. but that they had no sort of Success, the Commissaries of His Majesty having had no regard to the just Pretensions of that Princess; so that the way of Accommodation having failed, it is reasonable, as they say, that she should have recourse to Justice, to be restored to the Possession of her Lands. You see, my Lord, that this Lady makes use of the Conjuncture, which is favourable to her, and having the Court of *Spain* and the Government of the *Netherlands* in her favour, she will make use of the Opportunity; this convinces me, that they will by no means talk to you of her Pretensions, to stop by this the Payment which you solicit, and His Majesty wishes that, if they do not talk of it to you, you do not talk of it to them first, and that you do not make the least mention of the Interests of that Princess, which have nothing to do with the Treaty, of which the third Term remains to be paid. That if M. *de Torcy* should

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talk

talk to you of the Pretensions of Madame *D'Isanghyen*, in that case it will be right to tell him that this Lady takes her Course at Law, and refuses to agree. But the King desires, that you should seem not to be informed of the Steps she takes at *Brussels* and at *Mechlin*, but only by common Talk (these sort of things being publick) without shewing that any thing has been wrote to you about it from hence: for in that last Case, *M. de Torcy* would perhaps know in what manner we intend to act, to defend ourselves at *Mechlin*, and enter into a Detail, which the Court of *France* has nothing at all to do with, and which could not but be prejudicial. The King's Health is (God be thanked) every day better. The Swelling of his Legs is almost entirely gone off, by Rubbing and Fomentations from without, to which they have added some very innocent Remedies, which make him void Water plentifully. His Majesty sleeps, eats, and hunts as well as ever he did. The common Opinion is, that he will go over into *England* in six Weeks. I hope that Affairs will be put there upon a good footing. The Duke of *Zell* is expected here to-morrow se'ennight with the Elector of *Hanover*, who will not go for *England* 'till some Months after the King. The Presents, which my Lord *Macclesfield* has had at *Zell* and *Hanover*, are magnificent, and are above the value of 7000 *l.* Sterling. I send this Letter by a secret way, and I am, &c.

J. ROBETHON.

P. S. This Letter cannot come away from the *Hague* 'till Thursday the 8th of this Month. It will be convenient that your Excellency cause Mr. *Schuylenburg* to be informed of what shall pass in soliciting the Money for the third Term, that so he may concert early about the most secure Means to get it brought into *Holland*.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 7. 1701.

I Have a Letter from Mr. *Blathwayt* of the 28th past, wherein he says, that His Majesty is disposed to gratify the Duke of *Orleans*, and particularly Madame, whereof there need be no doubt, if the Usage has been, as is averr'd in the Memorial; for the clearing up of which, His Majesty has ordered him to send it to you, and if no material Objection be made, I may depend upon His Majesty's Compliance with what is desired by the Duke of *Orleans* and *Monf. de Torcy*. In your Letter of *August* 14, you agree, he ought to have as much as was given to *Mademoiselle d'Orleans*, and that it will depend much on the manner he is treated in the Court of *France*: but you could not tell whether it would follow from thence, that *Monsieur* should be added to the Title of Duke. Now to clear this matter, as well as I can, tho' you can best inform yourself of what has been practised, which I believe however can be no Example as to him, I must tell you that the original Letters, mentioned in the Memorial, were read by me; so there is no doubt of that Fact as to *Mademoiselle*, &c. This Court treats him with all the Honours his Father had. He has a Chancellor, a Council, an Introducer, Guards, &c. Only *Monsieur* was *Frere du Roy*, and the Duke of *Orleans* is *Petit Fils de France*. It was mentioned to me, that instead of *Monsieur* His Majesty might treat him sometimes in the body of the Letter with *Altesse*: but I know not whether that is not more. I am of opinion, that if His Majesty should comply with the Title of *Monsieur*, it would not be singular; for 'till other crowned Heads grant him what he expects, there will be an intimation that he cannot receive their Letters. This Court was of opinion, that he ought not to answer His Majesty's Letter 'till this was settled: but he did write nevertheless with the Title of *Monseigneur mon Cousin*, which was also thought too much. I take it, that the King gives the Grand Duke the Title of *mon Frere*; and the Ceremonial between the Great Duke and the Duke of *Orleans* will be on the same Foot to each other. I need not tell you of the Consideration Madame, as also the Duke of *Orleans* has for His Majesty; and I should be sorry if any thing of this nature was

to lessen it. If there still remains any Objection, I will endeavour to remove it. On Sunday last King *James* had again several fainting Fits, which lasted so long, that they thought him dead: but they brought him at last to himself. He received the extreme Unction, and seems much resign'd. He exhorted my Lord *Middleton*, and the rest of his Protestant Servants, to embrace the Romish Religion, and desired the P. Prince of *Wales* to keep his Faith, shewing him of how little value a Crown was in comparison to his Salvation. In short, he continued long on this Subject; and told the Curate of *St. Germain's*, that he would be buried in their Church, with only an Inscription *J. K. of England*. His Physicians cannot tell what his Distemper is. They think, that an Imposthume is broke, for a great deal of Corruption and Blood comes continually from him. Yesterday he had another Fit, which lasted an Hour. The *French* King and the whole Court has been to take their Leave of him; but he was not dead last Night, tho' none expect he can recover. I know so much, that as soon as he dies, the P. Prince will take upon him the Title of King of *England*, and he will be owned as such by those of *St. Germain's*. I am in doubt, whether the Court of *France* will own him so soon. As soon as I hear how this Court acts on this Occasion, I intend to send an Express to His Majesty for Instructions and Orders. They have here notice of our Fleet's being sailed; and they see in the *Dutch* Gazettes an Address of *Buckingham*, and in it Expressions not extremely obliging, to say no more. I leave you to guess how difficult a game I have to play, and yet I am fortunate enough, dividing my Person from my Character, to have their good Opinion; and all that I can now wish for, is to leave them in that Manner. I have yours of the 21st past. As to the Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Methuen*, which I sent you, it ought to have been dated *August* the 2d, as the Original was. I have inclosed another of the 16th, as also one from *Spain*. As to Mons. *de Chateaurenault's* Squadron, his Orders were to sail with 12 Men of War, but it is not certain yet whether he is gone or no, neither can I learn whether the rest of the Fleet be still at *Brest*. I desire you would let my Lord *Godolphin* know how much I am obliged to him. Mr. *Aglionby* is just come, but I have not yet seen him. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Madrid, Sept. 8. 1701.

ORDERS being come from *Paris* not to defer the King's Journey any longer, he set out from hence on the 5th instant with a very small Retinue, making state to arrive at *Barcelona* on the 30th, to wait there 'till the Arrival of the Princess of *Savoy* his future Spouse: H. M. will also call there the Assembly, of what they call the *Notables* of the Province, or Principality of *Catalonia*, then he will meet at *Saragossa* the Assembly of the *Cortes* of that Kingdom, and he will perhaps go to *Valencia* to do the same thing there, in case the Times and Conjunctures give him Leave. For the Fund gathered for the Expence of this Journey is so weak, that the Officers and Domesticks of the first Rank, who are not above 14 or 15 in number, are obliged to bear their own Charges: Of all the Foreign Ministers, the Count of *Marfin*, and the Ambassador of *Savoy*, only are of this Party. H. C. M. has committed the absolute Government, during his absence, to the Cardinal *Portocarrero*, with so ample an Authority, that the like is scarce to be found in History. The King has, before his Departure, sent secret and circular Orders to all the Governors and Commanders in the Sea-Ports, containing Orders not to admit, under any Pretence whatsoever, any *English* or *Dutch* Man of War, tho' it should be a Ship for Convoy; but to fire at them with Bullets, in case they should attempt to enter, notwithstanding this notice. In the mean while, they received on the 4th inst. an extraordinary Courier from *Cadiz*, sent by the Count *d'Estree*, who brought

advice

advice that they had seen a strong Squadron of *English* and *Dutch* near Cape *St. Vincent*; this was corroborated by another Express from the Viceroy of *Gallicia*, sent from the *Corunna*; but as this News has not since been confirmed, many doubt of it. I pray you nevertheless, my Lord, to communicate this in your Letters to Mr. Secretary *Vernon*. M. du *Casse*, Governor of the Island of *St. Domingo*, has concluded a new Treaty about the *Assiento* for Negroes, with this Court, in the name of the *Guinea* Company established at *St. Malo*; which goes into it for an intire half, the other half is for the account of the two Kings, Grandfather and Grandson, each an equal Portion. The *French* Vessels designed for the Transport of the said Negroes will have free access to all the Ports in *America*, without any Exception, not even of that of the famous Port of *Buenos Ayres*; and this is, in effect, making *France* Mistress of all the Trade to the *Indies*. I hope that Mr. *Aglionby* will be happily arrived: if he be still at *Paris*, I beg your Excellency to give him the inclosed, and if not, to send it wherever he may be. The *Venetian* Ambassador has took his Audience of Leave, without expecting the Arrival of his Successor, which furnishes matter for Discourse. The Duke of *Arcos* is set out, in obedience of his Orders from the Court, to go and serve in the *Netherlands*: his Brother Don *Gabriel Ponce* accompanies him. I have the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 21st of *August*, and I am, &c. F. SCHONENBERG.

Abstract of a Treaty between the EMPEROR, the KING, and the STATES-GENERAL.

1. **T**HERE shall be a perpetual and inviolable Friendship between the Emperor, the King, and the States-General.
2. The Allies think nothing more effectual for establishing the General Peace, than the procuring Satisfaction to the Emperor in the *Spanish* Succession, and sufficient Security for the Dominions and Commerce of the Allies.
3. The Allies shall employ two Month's time, from the day of exchanging the Ratifications, to obtain, by amicable Means, the said Satisfaction and Security.
4. But if that cannot be obtained within the time limited, they engage to assist one the other with all their Forces, according to the Specification to be agreed on, in a particular Convention.
5. The Confederates shall, among other things, endeavour to recover the *Spanish Netherlands*, to be a Barrier between *Holland* and *France*; as likewise the Dutchy of *Milan*, &c. for the Emperor's Security; and also the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, and the Lands and Islands upon the Coast of *Tuscany*, belonging to the *Spanish* Dominions.
6. His Majesty and the States may seize what Lands and Cities they can, belonging to the *Spaniards* in the *Indies*, and keep them.
7. In a War, the Confederates shall faithfully communicate their Designs to one another.
8. No Party shall treat of Peace, Truce, &c. but jointly with the rest, they shall prevent the Union of *France* and *Spain* under the same Government, or the *French* possessing the *Spanish Indies*. The Subjects of His Majesty and the States shall enjoy all the Privileges of Trade, which they had before the death of the late King of *Spain*.
9. At the making of Peace, the Confederates shall provide for the maintaining the Trade of the *English* and the *Dutch* to the Dominions taken from the *Spaniards*, and likewise secure the States by a Barrier.
10. They shall at the same time agree about the Exercise of Religion in the Places acquired.
11. They shall assist one the other with all their Forces, if the *French* King, or any one else, should invade any one, on account of this Alliance.
12. After a Peace, there shall remain a Defensive Alliance, between these Allies, for the maintaining of the said Peace.

13. All Kings, Princes, and States, that please, may enter into this Alliance: but the Empire shall be particularly invited, and the Confederates may, jointly or separately, invite whom they please.

14. This Treaty shall be ratified by all the Confederates within six Weeks, or sooner.

Signed at the *Hague*, Sept. 7. 1701.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept 9. 1701.

KING *James* is still alive, but without any Hopes of Recovery. He seems much resigned, and has exhorted the Lord *Middleton* and *Griffin*, and the rest of his Protestant Servants to embrace the *Romish* Religion. I hear the latter is extremely uneasy, because the King of *France* was present, and took notice of him, and said, that he hoped he would consider what K. *James* had said to him. This will have the greater Effect, because if he should not change, it is uncertain whether the *French* Court will have any such Regard for him, as it has had hitherto. They talk much of what King *James* said to the P. Prince to keep steadfast to his Religion, and not to depart from it on any account whatsoever. I can tell you, that the moment K. *James* dies, the other will take the Title of King of *England*, and will be owned as such by those of *St. Germain*s. The *Fr.* King is now at *Marly*, and at his Return he goes to *Fontainebleau*, so it may easily be contrived not to see the P. Prince 'till his Return. The Queen will be in a Convent at *Chalot* 'till the King be buried, and the P. Prince at the Duke of *Lausun*'s at *Paris*, and after that they will return to *St. Germain*s. I doubt not but the *French* will call him *Roy d'Angleterre*. Our Fleet has been seen off of the Coast of *Britany*, near *Rochfort*, making the best of their way southward. They are not very easy at it here, and are impatient to hear where they are intended. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 10. 1701.

I Have the Favour of yours of the 25th past, and I have little to acquaint you with, the Court being at *Marly*. We do not know what was brought by the Courier who arrived last Night from *Italy*. As to *Boselli*, I must do this Court that justice to say, that they had no hand in his Escape, and the manner of it does plainly shew it, and the Machine he left, which many are curious to go and see. His Mother, Wife, and Son, are in the *Bastile*. His Man attempted to follow him on the same Rope; but he was taken, and is in Prison, as is also a Post-Master, for giving him Horses without an Order. He is gone for *Italy*, and *Monf. de Torcy* believes they shall take him. As to what you say, that you think His Majesty would take it well, if I should stay a little longer here, and that you think it may be for His Service: I desire, that when you are satisfied of that, you will then be so kind as to intimate to His Majesty, that I shall do it with great Pleasure. Only I hope the King will have that Consideration for me, as not to leave me longer here than it is for His Service. There may be Reasons unknown to me, and which therefore I cannot judge of. I am sorry to find that Lord *Sunderland* continues still ill. 'Till I had your last, I took it for granted that his Lordship was in the Country. I cannot tell whether the Addrestes will not produce a new Parliament. If this should meet, there is danger that the two Houses will not agree, which would be of fatal consequence to the Affairs abroad. *Monf. de Torcy* has took no notice to me of this *Lewis de Courcy* nor do I know how to inform myself. K. *James* is still alive, but without Hopes of Recovery. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. Here is arrived an Express from *Italy*, who brings that the Duke of *Savoy* had attempted to force the Camp of the Imperialists, but was repulsed

with

with the loss of 1200 Men, and near 100 Officers. I will send the Particulars by my next.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 12. 1701.

I Received yours of the 4th on the 10th. I do assure you that your Letters are very acceptable. I should else be intirely ignorant of what passes with you, whence we have often strange Reports. I cannot think that the Fault of the Letters coming so irregularly is owing to the *French*, for those I send to the *Hague* never fail. I send you inclosed an account of a considerable Action in *Italy*, which happened on the 3d, &c. I hear that the *French* Troops are entered into *Liege*. I suppose the Chapter does not approve of this, tho' their Prince does. Count *Tallard* has Orders to assist the Elector of *Cologne* with his Troops, whenever he desires it; and it is believed, there may be some Understanding there also. *Monf. de Torcy* tells me that they have Hopes of taking *Boselli*, and I find they are much incensed against him. King *James* is still in the same condition, and they think him rather better; tho' there is little Hopes of his lasting long. The *Venetian* Ambassador has acquainted me, that Signor *Mocenigo*, their Ambassador to His Majesty, is set out, and will be in *Holland* by the Beginning of next Month. This Court goes to *Fontainebleau* on the 20th, and I am taking my Measures to be there as often as I find it necessary for His Majesty's Service. This Place will afford but little when the Court is gone. I am extremely pleased to hear His Majesty's Health is so well. God continue it! I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 14. 1701.

I Mentioned in my last something of an Action in *Italy*, of which I now send you the Particulars inclosed. I am told that the *French* Troops are entered into *Liege*, as also into *Bon*. It was expected that K. *James* would have died last Night: but he was alive this Morning, tho' they expect he will expire every Moment, being dead almost up to his Stomach, and he is sensible of no Pain. The King of *France* was there last Night, and did declare that he would own the P. Prince for King of *England* immediately. This he said before several People, and I have it from such good Hands, that I hardly doubt of it. You can best tell how we shall like this Proceeding. I have a Letter from Mr. *Blathwayt*, wherein he mentions, that His Majesty will give me leave to come over for some time, if the Lords Justices have no Objection to it. I should like the Proposal I made you much better, and, with great Submission, I think it more for His Majesty's Service. As for the Prospect there may be yet of some Accommodation; I wish it was more likely than it seems to me. I am of opinion that *Flanders* is what they have been long aiming at, and it is of too great Consequence to them to part with it easily. The *Venetian* Ambassador acquaints me, that Signor *Mocenigo* their Ambassador to His Majesty is set out, and will be in *Holland* by the beginning of next Month. I have yours of the 28th past, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 16. 1701.

WE have ever since Tuesday last been expecting to hear of the death of the late King. His grand Distemper now is a Lethargy, and he is often thought dead, tho' with Cordials, &c. they keep him up without any Hopes of Recovery. The King of *France* was that day to see him, and then he declared publicly, that he would own the P. Prince for King of *England*, and ordered the Captains of the Guards to pay him the same Honours they did to the late K. *James*. This is what His Majesty may rely upon. I know

know that some of the Foreign Ministers took notice of it yesterday to M. de Torcy, who said that there was nothing in that contrary to the Treaty of *Ryswick*. I cannot tell how they will explain this here, but certainly it cannot be understood so; and it shew^d at least, that this Court does not intend to keep any Measures with His Majesty. There is now in the Press an Edict to prohibit all Trade with *England*: but that it may not look like a Declaration of War, they do permit the bringing in of Beer, Syder, Glass Bottles, and Wool. Notice is already sent to all the Sea-Ports, and after the first of *November* next, no Person is to wear any of the Manufactures of *England*, under severe Penalties. If it is printed off before the Post goes, I will send it you; else you shall have it by the next Opportunity. Here is also established a Council of Trade, and they are taking their Measures to engross the whole Trade of *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *West-Indies*. I had thoughts of going to *Fontainebleau*, but I shall now defer it 'till I have His Majesty's Orders: for you may imagine what a Figure I shall make after these Proceedings. I should think that it cannot be for the Honour of His Majesty, nor of the Nation to have me continue here. I have yours of the 6th, wherein you mention that His Majesty would give me leave to come home for some time: but that this Permission must come from the Lords Justices. I am preparing myself, but I shall first wait His Majesty's further Orders, with an Answer to this News, which I hope you will send me as soon as you can. M. de Quiros has Orders to go to *Brussels*. Here is Advice come from *Brest* by an Expres, that Monf. de Chateaurenault was under sail for *Cadiz* with 14 Men of War, and that six more from *Rochfort* had join'd him. As to *Boselli*, Monf. de Torcy did tell me, that he had sent a Courier to Monf. de Bedmar: but that they have an account that he had hired Horses near *Lyons*, and it was thought he was gone for *Geneva*. He left a Letter, as if he intended to go to Monf. de Catinat, who has Orders to seize him. By all I could perceive, His Majesty never concerned himself much about him; notwithstanding that they pretend here, he was imprison'd on His account. I am apt to think, that this was only a Pretence, and that there were other Reasons. I do not know whether I shall have any occasion of sending an Expres, since this will come as soon by means of Mr. Stanhope, of whom I have desired to send a Messenger, in case no Courier is going. K. James is still alive. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 17. 1701.

THE late King James died yesterday betwixt three and four a-clock in the afternoon. And the P. Prince was immediately proclaimed King of *England*, by the Title of James the Third. I do not hear that there was any other Ceremony than that after he had taken the Title of King, those of *St. Germain's* kissed his Hand, and treated him with Majesty. After that the *French* complimented him, and did the like. What was done in the Town was in a tumultuous manner, by crying, *Long live James the Third*, &c. I do not doubt but before now the King of *France* and the rest of the Court have complimented him, all that matter having been settled before-hand. He continues at *St. Germain's*, but the Queen is come to *Chalot*, a Convent near *Paris*. I do not find that the late King is much regretted at *St. Germain's*, since the *French* King has promised that all things there shall remain on the same foot they were. I shall not give my Opinion, and I do take it that none are so proper to judge about this as the Lords Justices, since it does not only regard the Honour of his Majesty, but also that of the Nation: but I believe this is the first Precedent of a King who has owned another King, and whilst his Ambassador is at his Court, he owns another again with the same Titles. I know they say here, that there is nothing in this contrary to the Treaty of *Ryswick*, which they explain by their not intending to assist him in recovering his Crown, at least during the Life of his Majesty: but

I thought Treaties between Princes extended to them and their Successors; but that I suppose they will pretend to observe, since they have named a Successor. The Foreign Ministers are extremely surprized, and say they could not have believed what they now see. The King goes to *Fontainebleau* next Tuesday. I intended to have made my Court to him before he went, but I shall now defer it.

I send you an Extract of my Letter to Mr. *Blathwayt*, which I sent yesterday to *Loo*, but then the late King was not dead. The Post goes again on Monday next, by which time I shall be able to inform His Majesty more particularly of what passes on this occasion. It is said here, that there is a Will, which is not yet opened. I thought there was no necessity of sending an Express to *Loo*, because the *Hague* Post goes as soon, and I have desired Mr. *Stanhope* to forward it, as soon as he receives it. I cannot tell what will be the Determination, but I shall embrace any Opportunity that will bring me into *England*. The last Action in *Italy* appears more considerable than was at first imagined. The *French* and their Allies have lost above 3000 Men, and *Monf. de Chamillard* has a List of 300 Officers kill'd. I have this from very good hands, and you may rely upon it. I send you the Edict which prohibits our Trade, that you may judge of it. I have yours of the 1st instant, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 19. 1701.

I Hope you will have received my Letter of the 16th, by means of Mr. *Stanhope*, and that this will also come safe to your hands. Had I sent an Express, he could not have been much sooner; besides he might possibly have had the same Fate with the other last year. I have already acquainted the Lords Justices (since I believe His Majesty will come to no Resolution till they have given their Opinion) that the late King died on the 16th in the afternoon, and that immediately the P. Prince was proclaimed King of *England*, by the Title of *James* the Third. There was no other Ceremony than that the Queen waited on him, and treated him as King; after that, those of *St. Germain's* kissed his Hand, and the *French* complimented him. What was done in the Town, was done in a tumultuous manner. Some say there was a Herald an *Irishman*. Lord *Middleton*, &c. did not appear, because they could not tell how the Title of *France* would be taken here, had they done it in Form. Lord *Middleton* brought the Seals to him, which he gave him again. Others did the like. I am told, that before the *French* King made this Declaration, he held a Council at *Marly*, where it took up some time to debate whether he should own him or no; or if he did, whether it ought not to be deferred for some time. The Secret of all this Matter is, That, in short, there was a Person that governs here, who had some time since promised the Queen, that it should be done: so that whatever passed in Council was only for Form's sake. The *French* King came to *St. Germain's*, and assured the Queen, and the P. Prince, that he would own him as soon as the King was dead. Upon which the Queen told him, that it would be a great Consolation to the late King, if His Majesty would tell him as much; which he did, and then his Servants were called in, to whom he declared the same. To-morrow the *French* King goes to *St. Germain's*, to make the P. Prince the first Visit as King. The Queen is now at a Convent at *Chalot*, but she returns to-morrow to *St. Germain's*, where she will continue. The Body of the late King is brought to the *English Benedictines*, where it will be exposed 40 days, and then left there till a proper Opportunity of carrying it for *England*.

I do hear that, at Court, they pretend that there is nothing in all this contrary to the Treaty of *Ryswick*; which Notion they explain, by their not intending to assist him in recovering the Crown, at least not during the Life of His present Majesty. I thought Treaties extended to the Princes and their Heirs and Successors; but even there I suppose they are right, as having named the Successor. I assure you, that most of the *French*

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are surpris'd at this Proceeding: but it is generally said, that the *French* King has wrote to His Majesty, to shew the Necessity he was under, and that *M. de Torcy* has spoke to me, whom I have not heard a word from: and therefore I do not believe the other. I cannot see what can be said to palliate this Matter. I do not intend to appear at Court 'till I have His Majesty's Orders, which I imagine will be rather to return to *England*. We shall see now whether any of the Foreign Ministers will compliment the P. Prince. I suppose the *Spanish* Ambassador will, which I take it is in our power to resent in the like manner. I shall now tell you a little of the Situation of Affairs here, and then you must be of the same Opinion as most are, *viz.* that their Manner of Proceeding is unaccountable. The late Action in *Italy* appears every day more considerable: insomuch, that the *French* there are discouraged, and that it is not expected that their Army can oppose whatever Prince *Eugene* intends. The Letters of the 9th say, that he had declared, that he will pass the *Oglio*, and the People in the State of *Milan* are ready to receive him. The Scarcity of Money here is such, that you can hardly believe me, and I cannot compare it to any thing so like, as the want there was in *England*, when all the Money was called in. There is none in the King's Treasury, and there is scarce a Banker here that can pay 200 *l.* We hear daily of Bankrupts, and Letters of Exchange protested. They give 20 *per Cent* for Money, and can scarce get it. You must imagine that it is extream bad when it comes to be the whole Discourse of *Paris*. I would have drawn some Bills for *England*, and the greatest Bankers here could not let me have the Money; and when I desired to know whether they could pay me when I had Bills on any from *England*, they said, that they believed they could not. This is what you may rely upon. In short, no body pays, and I am told, that the Law for the arresting People for Debt is suspended for some time. The more appearance there is of War, the worse their condition will be. I know they are endeavouring to find out some Remedy, but they confess that the Specie is gone out of the Kingdom. A new Edict was published to-day for the new stamping the Money, which I send you. They talk also of obliging all Persons to carry in their Plate to be coined. All this may supply their present Necessities: but I cannot see how the Specie will return, and more must go out, if they pretend to pay their Armies. You will see also the Edict, which I mentioned to you in my last. It is in effect a total Prohibition of our Trade. I have the favour of yours of the 12th, and by the last Letters from *England* I hear, that there were three Mails due from *Holland*, so that they know not that His Majesty has given me Leave to come to *England* for some time. I shall be preparing, but wait His Majesty's further Orders on this occasion. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 21. 1701.

I Did not go to *Versailles* yesterday, for I thought it not proper 'till I had His Majesty's Orders, and I am confident that there are none here, if they dare to own their Opinion, but they must say that I am in the right: I think I should have made a worse figure than Count *Zinzendorf* did, when he was present whilst the Duke of *Anjou* was declared King of *Spain*. I was satisfied, that the whole Discourse would be of their new *Roy d'Angleterre*, and of the *French* King's going to make him the first Visit at *St. Germain's*, which he did that day. He staid but little with him, giving him the Title of Majesty. He was with the Queen a considerable time. The rest of the Court made their Compliments the same day. I am told that *M. de Torcy* declares, that this does not any way alter the Intentions of the King from observing the Treaty of *Ryswick*, and he alledges several Examples in the like Cases. He seemed concerned that I was not there, and he did desire one to let me know that he should be at *Paris* on Friday, and that he would either wait on me, or be glad to see me. I intend to see him, and to hear

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what he will say, and then I shall acquaint you with it. I have had a very difficult part to act, and I cannot see but this will make it worse. I hear now regularly from Mr. *Blathwayt*, who acquaints me, that he lays my Letters before His Majesty, which is the Reason that I do not write to the King directly. Besides, I find that His Majesty has left what relates to me to their Excellencies.

I have yours of the $\frac{4}{5}$ th. Our Fleet was seen off of *Brest* on the 11th, which they did not like here. This is much for the Honour of the Nation, as well as for its Service. We are now coming to Paper, as you will see by the inclosed. No body pays, and there is no Money stirring. I have my Letters from *Spain* and *Portugal*, a Copy of the first I have inclosed, the other said only that they were extremely apprehensive of our Fleet, and they were taking all possible Care to prevent a Surprise. The People are much incensed against the Duke of *Cadaval*, &c. who have been the Cause of the Treaty with *France*, so that they do not dare to appear without a sort of Guard. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 23. 1701.

I Hope you have received my Letters of the 16th and 19th, and laid them before His Majesty. I did not go to *Versailles* last Tuesday, not thinking it proper, as all here own it was not. This has made the Court consider whether they ought not at least to have took notice of it to me, before they made such a Declaration. Monsr. *de Torcy* seem'd concerned, and he has sent a Compliment to wait on me: but I desired to see him at his own House. I am to see him this afternoon, and then I shall hear what he can say to a thing of this nature.

The *French* King made the P. Prince the first Visit on Tuesday last: he stayed but little with him, but was a considerable time with the Queen. The next day the P. Prince returned the Visit at *Versailles*. All the Ceremonies passed to the entire Satisfaction of those of *St. Germain*s, and in the same manner as it was observed with the late King. I cannot tell what Resolutions His Majesty will take on this Occasion: but I hope at least that the Permission of my coming home for some time, will be confirmed by the Lords Justices, and will not be revoked. They are now here carrying their Money into the *Mint* as fast as they can. It is thought, that when it is mostly there, we shall see an Edict to raise the *Louis d'Or* to 15 Livres, and other Money in proportion. This will be a great Gain to the King for the present; but it must certainly undo the Kingdom at last. Their thoughts here go no further than the present Time, and so they act without considering the Consequences. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 24. 1701.

I Have seen Monsr. *de Torcy*, who did endeavour to put the best colour on this last Proceeding. His chief Aim was to shew me, that there was nothing in this contrary to the Treaty of *Ryswick*; and I could perceive, that the *French* King was brought to do it at the Solicitation of the Queen at *St. Germain*s. It is certain, that Monsr. *de Torcy*, as well as the rest of the Ministers, was against it, and only the Dauphin and Madame *de Maintenon*, whom the Queen had prevailed with, carried this Point; which I am satisfied they may have Reason to repent of. It begins to appear already, since I can assure you, that if I take my Leave, it will cause an universal Consternation here. I see that they are in no condition to support a War, and the Affairs of *France* were never in so ill a Posture. I told him my Mind very freely, and there is so much to say on this Subject, that he could not answer me. I said, that it was such a Precedent as might come home to them at last; that there were Others, who pretended to the Crown of *Spain*, as well as the present King, and I left him to judge how that would be liked, if we should act as they do. It is not necessary to repeat all that passed: but when I take

take myself to be in the right, I am apt enough to speak plain. I found him very calm, and even concerned; without doubt they expect I shall be recalled, and they will be sorry if it should happen so at last. I told him, I would wait His Majesty's Orders, and 'till then I could say nothing to this matter; that I supposed I should have them soon, and then I would acquaint him with them. He said, he hoped to see me at *Fontainebleau*. He entered on the Subject of the Negotiation, and how the Peace would set all right. I told him, that it was visible what Difficulties there have been in relation to the Emperor, and that there was no occasion for creating new ones, which might oblige us to take such Measures as possibly we might otherwise not take. I know that this King ordered *Monf. de Torcy* to soften this matter to me, as much as he could. I have Thoughts of laying this whole Conference, which lasted an Hour, before His Majesty, tho' there is no relying on what this Court says or does, after what we have seen. I am afraid of even giving my Opinion, and it would be better if I could have the Honour to relate this to His Majesty by Discourse: tho' I fear there never will be any treating with this Court without great Vigour and Resolution, and with Sword in Hand. I have yours of the $\frac{9}{17}$, and am of the same Opinion with you, that as new Accidents happen, it is necessary to wait for new Orders: but I hope nevertheless to come for *England*, tho' I should return again hither. I have a Letter from Mr. *Blathwayt* of the 17th, who writes to me, as if he was not sure it should find me at *Paris*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 26. 1701.

I Have seen *Monf. de Torcy*, who did endeavour to put the best Colour on the late Proceedings. The Will of the late King *James* is opened, but not yet published, but I hear it is to be printed. What I have learned of it is, That the Queen is made Regent, the *French* King is desired to take care of the Education of the P. Prince; that in case he be restored, the Queen is to be repaid all that she has laid out of her own; that all other Debts, which they have contracted since they left *England*, and what can be made out, shall be paid; that the new King shall not take any Revenge against his Father's Enemies, nor his own; that he shall not use any Force in matters of Religion, nor in relation to the Estates of any Persons whatsoever. He recommends to him all those that have followed him. I am told, that Lord *Perth* is declared a Duke, and *Caryl* a Lord. I do not doubt but we shall hear of several new Titles and Garters. Certainly there ought to be some Stop put to all this, else we shall not know where we are. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lisbon, Sept. 27. 1701.

I Am not honoured with any from your Excellency since my last. The 19th instant arrived here in *Cascaes* Road His Majesty's Ship the *Lyn*, dispatched to me by Sir *George Rook*, with Instructions from His Majesty; upon the Receipt of which, I presently demanded an Audience of the King of *Portugal*, and it was appointed me the next Morning at ten of the Clock. I was almost two Hours with the King, during which time having said every thing to him that I thought likely to make him sensible of his past Errors, and true Interest; I concluded with acquainting him, that it being absolutely necessary for the King my Master to be fully informed concerning the Contents of the late Treaties he had made with *France* and *Spain*; I desired that a true Copy of them should be communicated to me, together with a Declaration of his final Resolution, how he intended to act in case a War should break out between *England* and *France*, adding, that I expected an immediate and positive Answer, being resolved not to detain the King's Ship above four and twenty Hours. The Arrival of the Frigate, her remaining at the *Cascaes*,
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my Demands, and the little time I gave them, put this King and his Ministers into a great Consternation, for they supposed that our Fleet lay somewhere near the Coast, expecting the Return of the Frigate with my Answer; and this Consideration made them very uneasy, which made me hope that they would at last take some vigorous Resolution in our favour. But my hopes were soon defeated by the News I received by an Express from *Cascaes*, the same Night, that Monf. *Chateaurenault* appeared off with his Squadron, which proved too true, for he came into this River the next day; and the *Portuguese* having plucked up their Spirits, the Secretary of State sent me an Answer in writing, That the King of *Portugal* lay under no other Obligations by his Treaties with *France* and *Spain*, than those which he communicated to me already, as also to Mr. Secretary *Vernon* by his Envoy in *England*; and that the King had no Reason to change any thing that had been stipulated with the M. Ch. King, who had always been his good Friend and Ally. Monf. *Chateaurenault*'s Squadron consists of fourteen Men of War, five Fire-ships, and one Hospital, which are now come up the River, and lie all before the City. Three of the Ships are of three Decks, and from ninety to a hundred Guns, most of the others carry from fifty to sixty. This last Step being made to crown the rest of their Follies, I cannot think any thing can bring these People to their Senses again, but a Miracle, or popular Tumult, the last of which is much more likely to happen than the first; for every body seems dissatisfied at the present Situation of Affairs, excepting two or three of the Ministers. I am, &c.

P. METHUEN.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Sept. 28. 1701.

I Have received yours of the 11th, and am much obliged to their Excellencies for the Representation they have made to His Majesty. I am confident that the King will be of that Opinion since they are so. I was unwilling to press this Matter, lest Conjectures might have been made to my disadvantage, tho' I hope it is apparent that the only Aim I have is His Majesty's Service, and the Honour of the Nation. I am satisfied that this Court will contrive Matters so, that it cannot be long before they will oblige me to be gone. Their Actions shew there is now nothing left but that. The owning the P. Prince is against the 4th Article of the Treaty of *Ryswick*, if Words can mean any thing; and the Prohibition of our Commerce is against the fifth Article of the same Treaty: but these are small matters to what you would have seen, had it been in their power. The only Satisfaction we have is, that all *Europe* must be convinced, that we are not the Aggressors, and *England* must be convinced, that His Majesty is not for engaging them in a War, if it can be prevented: but you know already my Opinion. The Will of the late King will be printed, and I hope to send it you by the next Post. There are to be great numbers sent into *England*, so that possibly you may have it before me. Lord *Middleton* is declared Earl of *Monmouth* by this Will, Lord *Perth* is to be a Duke by an old Patent; but they say Lord *Middleton* will not take his new Title. There are several other Lords made, but not yet declared, so that the House of Lords will be well filled at their Return. We shall soon hear that some Garters are disposed of. It is a comical Scene, and I hope it will end so. Here are Letters from *Italy* of the 19th, and inclosed I send you the News they bring. I find M. *Poussin* is a very pleasant Gentleman, I could send you many Stories about him from hence. I am glad he is at last puzzled about our Fleet. They are very uneasy about it here, and would fain know what we intend to do with it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy

Copy of the DUTCH Ambassador's Representation to the
FRENCH King.

Translated out of French.

THE States-General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, having received advice that some *French* Troops were come not only to encamp at *Hermael* (one of the Villages of the Redemption, and by consequence of the Territories of the States) but that they even fortify themselves there, and hinder by this the passing of any thing that might be brought to *Maestricht*, down the *Maese*, to the great Inconveniency of that City, have given Orders to their Ambassador to represent to the M. Chr. K. that *Hermael* being one of the Villages of Redemption, does notoriously, according to the express Letter, and the Sense of the 8th Article of the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, belong to the States; that the Arrival of *French* Troops upon the Territories of the State, and the Fortifications which they make there, cannot but be looked upon as manifest Infractions of the said Treaty, and to pray your Majesty that you will not only cause such an Enterprize, and the commenced Fortifications to be stopp'd, but to order also, that the Troops that are there, shall withdraw immediately from the Lands of the States, without disturbing them hereafter. *Fontainebleau, Sept. 27. 1701.*

VAN HEEMSKERK.

To Mr. Secretary VERNON.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 1. 1701.

LAST night arrived here a Messenger from *Loo*. Mr. *Blathwayt* acquaints me, that His Majesty having considered the Proceedings of this Court, does order me to return to *England* forthwith without taking Leave. I am only to let *Monf. de Torcy* know the Reasons why His Majesty does not think it for His Honour, nor Service, to continue longer any Ambassador, or other Minister here. I propose to set out in less than ten days, and I do desire their Excellencies the Lords Justices will order a Yacht for me at *Calais*. I cannot but think this Resolution is right, and I am glad it is taken; tho', in relation to myself, I could have wished there had been no occasion for it, that so I might have left this Court in a better manner. I shall soon have an Opportunity of seeing you, and of thanking you for all your Favours. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. BLATHWAYT.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 4. 1701.

MR. *Collins*, the Messenger, arrived here on the 30th past with His Majesty's Orders, and the next day I received a Duplicate of them by the Post. On the 2d instant I acquainted *Monf. de Torcy* with them, in the manner you had directed me, and I have inclosed his Answer. I have some reason to think that the Court was a little surpris'd, tho' they might reasonably expect such a Resentment. You will see that *Monf. de Torcy* refers me to the Conference I had with him before he went to *Fontainebleau*, of which I have already inform'd you. I must own, that they are much civilier on this Occasion, than I expected they would have been, and I have great Obligations to *Monf. de Torcy*, who has on all Occasions shew'd himself extreme kind to me, and even in this case he expresses it. He will procure me Passports for my Goods, else I should not have known what to do. I have Reasons to be very well pleas'd with the Orders I have received; I intend to set out for *England* by the 10th, and I hope I shall soon have the honour of paying my Duty to His Majesty there. I send you inclosed the Advices from *Italy*, and I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Copy of a Note from the Earl of MANCHESTER to Mons. DE TORCY, and Mons. DE TORCY'S Answer.

To the Marquiss DE TORCY.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Paris, Oct. 2. 1701.

THE King my Master, being informed that H. M. Chr. Majesty has owned another King of *Great Britain*, does not believe that His Honour and His Interest permit him to keep any longer an Ambassador with the King your Master, and has sent me Orders to retire immediately; of which I give myself the Honour to give you notice by this Note, and I do assure you at the same time, that I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

October 2. 1701.

I Can add nothing to what I had the Honour to tell you eight days ago, about the sincere Desire which the King has always had to preserve the Peace with the King your Master. As to me in particular, I only pray you to be persuaded, that in whatever place you are, you will find no body who is more truly than I shall be all my Life-time, &c. DE TORCY.

Thus ended this Troublesome, Laborious, and Expensive Embassy, and a few days after these Notes were wrote, his Excellency set out for *England*, without taking any leave of the *French* Court. He was very graciously received by His Majesty, who highly approved of his whole Conduct and Diligence, and who not long after appointed him one of His Principal Secretaries of State.

IT being my design to publish such Memoirs only as the late Duke of *Manchester* or Myself were concerned in, and not to write a History; I shall here break off, and go to the Year 1707, when his Excellency was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary to *Venice*, with Orders to call first at the Courts of *Vienna* and *Turin*.





MEMOIRS

OF

Affairs of State.

Extract of the Instructions to the Earl of MANCHESTER, Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republick of VENICE. Given at Kensington, January 20. 170⁷.

AND whereas it will conduce to the Interest of both Nations, that a Treaty of Commerce be settled for the regulating and ascertaining the Rules and Methods of trading mutually between Our Subjects, and those of that State: You are to acquaint them that you are ready to enter into a Negotiation on that Subject. And for your better Direction herein, you will have transmitted to you a Project of such a Treaty, from which you are not to recede in any material Point, without Our further Order.

ANNE R.

Private Instructions for Our Right Trusty, and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor, CHARLES Earl of MANCHESTER, whom We have appointed to be Our Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republick of VENICE. Given at Our Court at Kensington, the 20th Day of January 170⁶, in the Fifth Year of Our Reign.

WHEREAS Our Principal Design in entering into, and carrying on the present War, in conjunction with Our Allies, against *France*, has been to restore the Balance of Power in *Europe*, and to restrain the boundless Ambition of the *French* King, whose Aim seems to be nothing less than engrossing to himself the Universal Monarchy; and as the bringing the Republick of *Venice* into the Confederacy, or at least to enter into proper Measures with Us and Our Allies, would contribute very much to, and facilitate these Designs, you are to sound their Disposition in this particular, and to take all Opportunities, and to use your utmost Endeavour, (in conjunction with the Minister of the States-General, if any be there) to engage them to cooperate with Us for the accomplishing these Ends. We have the greater Reason to expect their Concurrence in these Measures, since they, as well as the rest of *Europe*, will find their Account and Advantage in it, especially since by the Emperor's having granted the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan* to King *Charles* the Third of *Spain*, all Pretence of Jealousy is removed, and they have nothing now to apprehend, but from the common Enemy of the Liberties of *Europe*.

And in case you cannot prevail with them to enter into the Grand Alliance, or openly to declare for the Interest of the Allies, you are nevertheless
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to do your utmost Endeavours with them for obtaining their Assistance in every thing, that may occur for the Interest of the Common Cause, and by degrees to engage them, either openly or secretly, to oppose, as much as possible, the Designs of *France*.

If you shall find them propose, and insist upon a Neutrality in *Italy*, or that they should flatter themselves with the Thoughts of being Mediators of a Peace; you are at all times to cut that matter short with them, by declaring, that We and our Allies must look upon a Neutrality in *Italy* at this time, as a Declaration for *France*; and as to their being Mediators of a Peace, it is a thing that you are directed not to enter into, neither can it be thought of, till *France* be reduced to reasonable Bounds, and the Monarchy of *Spain* secured entire to King *Charles* the Third.

In case they shall offer any Proposal to you, upon their entering into Measures with Us and Our Allies, you are forthwith to transmit the same to one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, in order to your receiving Directions thereupon.

And whereas it will be a Service of the greatest Importance to engage the Viceroy of *Naples*, and the chief Persons of the Government there, to embrace the Interest of King *Charles* the Third; you are to endeavour to inform yourself of their Inclination, and if you find them well disposed to it, you are to use all possible means to cultivate and improve that Disposition in them, and engage them therein; and for your Undertaking in this matter, We hope you will find a favourable Opportunity. A. R.

Additional Instructions for Our Right Trusty, and Well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor CHARLES Earl of MANCHESTER, whom We have appointed to be Our Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republick of VENICE. Given at Kensington, January 20. 1706.

ANNA R.

1. **Y**OU are to take your Journey to *Venice* through *Germany*, and in your way, to repair forthwith to the Imperial Court, and there demand an Audience, in Our Name, of the Emperor; to whom you shall express the great Satisfaction, which, his granting the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan* to King *Charles* the Third of *Spain*, has given to Us and Our Allies, and of how great Advantage his having made this Step will be to the Common Cause, in dissipating the Apprehensions and Jealousies occasioned by its having been delay'd.

2. You shall represent to the Emperor how much the full Execution of the Treaty, concluded at *Turin* between his Imperial Majesty and the Duke of *Savoy* 1703, of which Treaty We and the States-General are Guarantees, at the Emperor's own Request, will conduce to the encouraging the Duke of *Savoy* to continue to act with the same Vigour for the Common Cause, as his Royal Highness has hitherto done, in a manner without Example. You shall therefore demand of his Imperial Majesty a full and entire Execution of the said Treaty; and to this end you shall insist, that the Duke of *Savoy* be immediately put into Possession of all the Places granted to him by the 5th and 6th Articles of the aforesaid Treaty, which should have been delivered to him successively, as they were conquered, according to the 11th Article of the same Treaty.

3. And whereas it is stipulated in the 2d private Article of the said Treaty, that besides the other Grants made to the Duke of *Savoy* out of the State of *Milan*, that the Emperor should likewise give up to him the *Vigevanasco*; or in case any Difficulties should arise, an Equivalent: We conceiving that there can be no reasonable Ground for any Difficulties, considering the great Services the Duke has done for the common Cause, and in particular for the House of *Austria*, think it very just, that you press the Emperor to put the Duke of *Savoy* into the immediate Possession of the *Vigevanasco*, without thinking of any other Equivalent. 4.

4. And whereas it has been represented to Us, that the Emperor is indebted to the Duke of *Savoy*, to the value of 7,000,000 of Livres, Money of *Piedmont*, you shall desire his Imperial Majesty, that some Expedient be found out for the Payment of the said Sum; and shall propose in particular, that the Emperor, in consideration of the said Debt, and for the Satisfaction of so good and useful an Ally, shall give the Duke of *Savoy* the Propriety of the *Novaresé*, as a Security and Satisfaction for the aforesaid Debt of 7 000,000.

5. You shall acquaint the Emperor, that We and the Duke of *Savoy* have concerted such Measures for the next Campaign, as may be most effectual for the carrying of the War into *France* on that Side, by entering *Provence* and *Dauphiné* early in the Year; and shall therefore represent to the Emperor, that, in order to this, it is absolutely necessary he should, as soon as possible, settle the Command of his Forces in *Italy*, and in such a manner as may be most agreeable to the Duke of *Savoy*, and that he should give Orders to his General there, to do every thing that may facilitate this Design. And whereas the Command of the Imperial Army upon the *Rhine* is now become vacant, by the Death of Prince *Louis*, Margrave of *Baden*, you shall represent to the Emperor the Necessity of supplying the same without any loss of time, that the Preparations for the next Campaign may not meet with any delay, at this time especially, when we are informed the Enemy are making theirs with all Diligence. You shall therefore insist, that this Command be given to a Person, whose Abilities, Integrity, and Affection to the Interest of the Empire and the Common Cause, may qualify him for so eminent a Station, and that this be done as soon as possibly may be.

6. You shall solicit the Emperor to send immediately such Recruits of Horse and Foot to his Army in *Italy*, as have been promised, which are 13,000 Foot, and 4000 Horse.

7. You shall fulfill the Contents of these Instructions with all possible Expedition, and afterwards repair to the Duke of *Savoy*, with an account of your Negotiations at *Vienna*.

A. R.

ANNE R.

An additional Instruction for Our Right Trusty, and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor CHARLES Earl of MANCHESTER, our Ambassador Extraordinary to the Republick of VENICE. Given at our Court at Kensington the 20th day of January 1706, in the Fifth Year of Our Reign.

WHEREAS the Republick of *Venice* have not yet owned our Brother and Ally the King of *Prussia*, under the said Title of King of *Prussia*; and whereas all other Princes and States have owned the said King of *Prussia* as such, except the *French* King and Duke of *Anjou*, with whom he is now in War, in conjunction with Us and the rest of our Allies: you shall represent to the said Republick, That it will be very acceptable to Us, and conformable to the Neutrality which they profess, if they own Our said Brother and Ally as King of *Prussia*, which has been done already by other Neutral Princes, as well in *Italy* as elsewhere, and in particular by the Great Duke of *Tuscany*; and was done by the Duke of *Savoy* at the same time, that he was in an Offensive and Defensive Alliance with the *French* King, against the King of *Prussia*, as well as the rest of their Allies.

A. R.

Secret Articles of the Treaty betwixt the Queen of GREAT BRITAIN and the Duke of SAVOY, August 4. 1704.

Translated out of French.

1. HER Britannick Majesty having obliged Herself, by the Treaty signed to-day, to ratify and guarantee the Treaty concluded betwix H. I. Majesty and H. R. H. of the 8th of *November* 1703, is willing to promise, as She promises by the present Article, to ratify and guarantee likewise, as well in general, as in particular, as She does hereafter, the Secret Articles that have been

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concluded the same day, betwixt his said Imperial Majesty and his said Royal Highness, the Contents of which are as follows.

Translated out of Latin.

1st Article. Whereas in the 14th Article of the abovesaid Treaty, which relates to the Renunciation to be made by H. R. H. of all and every the Rights and Pretensions, or Marriage-Contracts come to him from the most serene Infante *Catharine*, Daughter of *Philip* the Second, formerly King of *Spain*, and Dutcheſs of *Savoy*, it is here expreſſly declared, That out of this Declaration is excepted the Sum of 200,000 Golden Crowns, which is out of the Debts, and the ſaid Pensions belonging to the Dowry of the M. S. Infante of pious Memory, aſſigned to the ſecond Daughter of H. R. H. *Louisa Gabriela* as a Dower, and that the Mortgage was ſettled as a Security for the ſaid Dowry, in the Contracts of the Year 1701, on the 23d of *July*.

2d Article. As H. R. H. has deſired that, beſides the Ceſſions expreſſed in the abovesaid Treaty of Confederacy, the Province or Diſtrict of *Vigevanum*, commonly called the *Vigevenafco*, and beſides five Villages lying in the Territory of *Novara*, that is *Prarola*, *Paleſtino*, *Rivoltella*, *Rofaſco* and *Longaſco*, may be yielded up to him : but as ſome Difficulties have been ſtarted in regard to the ſaid Places, H. S. I. Maſteſty reflecting on the Generoſity of Mind, and the Conſtancy with which H. R. H. has expoſed himſelf to the greateſt Dangers and Loſſes for the Common Cauſe, and ſtill expoſes himſelf, and deſiring to confer on him Marks of greater Munificence, declares that he will yield up, and aſſign to him and his Succeſſors, not only for the ſaid abovenamed Villages, but alſo for the Diſtrict or Province of *Vigevano*, other Places of the like value, both as to the number of Villages or Subjects, and to the Greatneſs of the Revenues, and the extent and largeneſs of the Places, in the State of *Milan*, and that in thoſe Parts that are contiguous to the Territories of H. R. H. and that by transferring the whole Property of the Dominion and Jurisdiction, in the ſame Form and Manner as the other Ceſſions were made.

3d Article. Here the Emperor promiſes to invite all the Electors of *Germany* into the Guaranty for this ſaid Treaty.

4th Article. As H. R. H. has obliged himſelf by the 2d Article of the ſaid Treaty, to keep 15,000 Men in his Pay, he ſhall notwithstanding be deemed free from this Obligation, whenever it ſhall become impoſſible for him to fulfill it by the ceaſing of his Eſtates, which might happen during this War, and that an unwilling and forced Diminution ſhall not be reckoned as the leaſt Defect of his Obligation, nor deprive H. R. H. of any Ceſſions promiſed him by this Confederacy. So as likewiſe H. I. M. ſhall not be blamed, or it ſhall not be counted a Fault in him, if by chance his Troops, that are now in *Piedmont*, could not, obſtructed by a greater Force, be augmented by the neceſſary Supplies mentioned in the Treaty ; but H. I. M. ſhall however, in that Caſe, be obliged, after having tried all Means, to hold the ſaid Supplies ready in *Lombardy*, that they may, when an Occaſion offers, be forthwith conducted into *Piedmont*.

5th Article. When *Lombardy* and both *Sicilies* ſhall be recovered, H. I. M. and H. R. H. ſhall turn their Arms towards *France*, and if any thing be taken in *Franche Comté*, or in *Burgundy*, it ſhall be yielded to the moſt Auguſt Houſe of *Austria* ; but what ſhall be taken in *Pragola*, *Dauphiné*, and *Provence*, ſhall be given to H. R. H. And H. I. M. promiſes, as well for himſelf, as for the Empire, and alſo in the Name of his Allies, that he will uſe all his Endeavours in the next Treaty of Peace, that H. R. H. may be maintained in thoſe Poſſeſſions.

Theſe Articles were ſigned on the 8th of *November* 1703, by the Count of *Aversperg* and the Marquis *de Priè* on the part of the Emperor, and by the Marquis *de St. Thomas* on the part of the Duke of *Savoy*.

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*The Second Secret Article of the Treaty betwixt the QUEEN
and the Duke of SAVOY.*

Translated out of French.

THE same Motive which incited H. B. M. to oblige Herself by the 3d Article of the said Treaty signed to-day, to guarantee, and maintain all the Cessions made by H. I. M. in favour of H. R. H. by the 5th and 6th Articles of the said Treaty of the 8th of *November* 1703. incites Her said B. Majesty to promise, as She does expressly promise by the present Article, to guarantee, and support the Declaration of H. I. M. made by the 2d of the said Articles, concluded betwixt him and said H. R. H. and in favour of H. R. H. That he will yield and assign over to him, for the Country or Province of *Vigevano*, and for the five Towns therein mentioned, an Equivalent, as it is expressed by the said Article.

3. H. B. M. obliges Herself besides, expressly, by this present Article, that in case we happen to conquer the *Pragola*, the *Dauphiné*, and *Provence*, or any part of those Countries, to use Her utmost Efforts at the next Treaty for a General Peace, that H. R. H. and his Successors may remain in peaceable Possession, and free Sovereignty of the said conquered Countries. And even in case H. R. H. had not conquered the said Countries by force of Arms, H. B. M. engages Herself besides this, that She will use the same endeavours that the said Countries may be yielded to H. R. H. and particularly that part that is on this side the Mount *Geneva*, by reason of the important Necessity there is for the Security of H. R. H. and the Publick, that the said Mount *Geneva* should serve as a Barrier against *France*, and that not a Foot of Ground should remain to him on this side of the *Alps*, as it is expressed by the 5th Article of the said Treaty that was signed this day. H. R. H. does on the other hand promise to permit all those, that are of the Protestant Religion, who have been obliged to retire out of the said Country, to return thither, to inhabit it again, and to enjoy the Estates they shall there acquire, with the free Exercise of their Religion, as they did exercise it before their Departure. H. R. H. granting to all others of the said Religion, that shall come to inhabit the said Country, the same Privileges; provided the one and the other do not endeavour, in any manner, to bring the Catholics to their Religion, nor to do them any Sort of Hurt as to their Possessions.

4. His said R. H. obliges himself also to confirm, as he confirms by this present Article, the Secret Article of the 20th of *October* 1690, (which is hereafter inserted) together with the Edict of the 23d of *May* 1694, concerning the Re-establishment of the *Vandois*: which Edict shall have the same force and Vigour as the said Secret Article, as if it was likewise inserted here, word for word.

Then follows the Secret Article concerning the *Vandois*, &c.

These Secret Articles were signed at *Turin* the 4th of *August* 1704, by *Richard Hill* Esq; on the part of the Queen, and by the Count *de Vernon* on the part of the Duke of *Savoy*.

Separate Article of a Treaty with the Duke of SAVOY.

Translated out of French.

WHEREAS in the Treaty of the Alliance, made and signed at *Turin* by the Plenipotentiaries of H. B. M. the Queen of *Great Britain*, and H. R. H. of *Savoy* the 4th of *August* 1704, certain Articles of the Grand Alliance, made and concluded at the *Hague* the 7th of *September* 1701, betwixt H. I. M. Her B. M. and the States-General of the *Netherlands*, should have been inserted as an essential part of the said Treaty, made at *Turin* the 4th of *August* 1704; and as there was an Article added to the said Treaty of the Grand Alliance, made at the *Hague* the 7th of *September* 1701, to the observing of which, the Emperor, the Queen of *England*, and the States-General have mutually obliged themselves, by the Signing of their Plenipotentiaries, and by their Rati-

Ratifications in the Year 1702: This is to certify, that we the Plenipotentiaries of H. M. the Queen of *England*, and of H. R. H. of *Savoy*, have annexed the same Article to the abovesaid Treaty, made at *Turin* the 4th of *August* 1704, as an essential Part of it, in the Terms and Manner following.

Translated out of Latin.

WHereas after the Confederacy betwixt his Sacred I. M. His Sacred Majesty the King of *Great Britain*, lately deceased, and the High and Mighty Lords the States-General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, made and signed at the *Hague* on the 7th of *September* 1701, the M. Ch. King has arrogated to himself to own the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and to declare him King of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, and by that Act has done a great and unworthy Injury to the deceased King, to the Queen of *Great Britain*, and to the whole *British* Nation; it is therefore agreed, and concluded among the said Confederates, his Sacred Imperial Majesty, her Sacred Royal Majesty the Queen of *Great Britain*, and the High and Mighty Lords the States-General of the United Provinces of the *Netherlands*, by this present Article (which shall have an equal and the same Force, as if it had been inserted in the said Confederacy from the Beginning) That not any sort of Peace shall be begun with *France*, before Reparation be made to H. M. the Queen of *Great Britain* for this horrid Injury.

The Kings and Princes, who have already acceded to the Confederacy named, or who shall hereafter accede to it, shall be invited to join also in this present Confederacy. This Article shall be ratified within a Month, or sooner, if that can be done.

Signed PETER COUNT of GOESSEN.

JOHN WENCESLAUS COUNT of WRATISLAU.

Translated out of French.

WE the abovenamed Plenipotentiaries, in virtue of our respective full Powers, have concluded, and signed the present separate Article, and put our Seals with our Arms to it, promising the respective Ratifications, that is, that of H. B. M. in six Weeks, and that of H. R. H. in eight days. Done at *Turin* the 18th of *November* 1704.

Signed RICHARD HILL. The Count of VERNON.

THE abovesaid separate Article being to Our Mind in all its Contents, We have accepted, approved, ratified, and confirmed it, and We accept, approve, ratify, and confirm it: Promising upon the Faith and Word of a Prince, to keep and observe it inviolably, without acting against it, directly or indirectly, nor permitting that it shall be infringed in any sort or manner whatsoever. In Witness whereof We have sealed these Presents with Our Hand, and caused the Seal of Our Arms to be affixed to it. Given at the Camp of *Crescentin* the 21st day of *November* 1704. V. AMEDE.

A Project concerted with the Duke of SAVOY 1707.

Translated out of French.

HER Majesty the Queen having observed with Pleasure, that H. R. H. was entirely bent to conform himself to the Design She has long had, to execute the Enterprize against *Toulon*, as soon as the Affairs of *Italy* would permit it, has ordered Her Ministers to hold Conferences with those of H. R. H. about this Expedition, in which was regulated and resolved what follows.

1. H. M. will furnish 40 Ships of the Line at the time and place fit for the said Enterprize of *Provence*, with a sufficient number of Transport-Ships, to carry Provisions and Ammunition from *Oneglia*, and the Coasts of *Genoa*, to that of *France*, when the Army shall be there.

2. H. R. H. will be pleased to let it be known, as soon as possible, about what time, and at what place, the Fleet shall come, that so we may here take infallible Measures, that it may be ready and furnished with every thing; and his said R. H. is desired not to let the Fleet come to the Place of Meeting,

Meeting, but just at the time he shall judge it to be indispensably necessary to let it act; and then the Fleet shall be absolutely under his Orders, and the Admirals shall have positive Orders to obey H. R. H. and shall be entirely at his Disposition, during the time he shall remain with the Army in *Provence*.

3. Whilst We wait for the time that is proper for the abovesaid Operations, there will be Ships enough in the Seas of *Italy*, to keep the Enemies in their Ports, and hinder the Transports on the Coasts of *Italy*; and according to the Advices We shall receive of Armaments at *Toulon*, the said Ships shall be reinforced from time to time.

4. H. R. H. is desired to take care to have certain Advices of the Armaments that shall be made at *Toulon*, and to let Admiral *Shovel*, who commands the Fleet, know them; and afterwards to have the Goodness to let Us know here, what he may have wrote to the said Admiral *Shovel*, who will conform himself to his Orders and Advice.

5. The Admiral is to furnish as many Cannons for the Batteries as H. R. H. shall judge to be necessary for the Expeditions in *Provence*; but his said R. H. is to furnish the Carriages that are necessary, the Fleet carrying none that are fit for the Land.

6. H. R. H. is also to furnish the Mortars with their Carriages, as also the Bombs, Lead, and the Bullets of that Size, which he shall judge necessary, there being Cannon of all Sorts on board the Fleet; all which he may cause to be brought out of the *Milanese* to the Coasts of *Genoa* and *Piedmont*, and to *Oneglia*, as he shall think proper, to be afterwards brought by the Transport-Ships, where he shall order it.

7. The Ships shall furnish some Quantity of Powder.

N. B. This Article is to be further explained.

8. H. R. H. will have the Goodness to take care of establishing Magazines for Provisions, and Oats, and other things necessary for the Army, in the Places which he shall judge most proper for the Enterprize, as also to find Voitures and Mules to pass the Mountains, and to serve in the Army during the Campaign, as well in *Provence*, as in *Dauphiné*.

9. The Queen and the States-General will, upon this Project, continue the 28,000 Men in their Pay, and they will take care to have them fully recruited, and that early; and the Court of *Vienna* will leave the whole Body of Troops, which was employed during the last Campaign in *Piedmont*, in *Lombardy*, to serve in the Expedition of *France*, and will recruit it as they have promised, which will make 13,000 Recruits of Foot, and 4000 new Horse, which Body of Troops is to be in a condition to act in the Month of *April*.

10. H. R. H. will, on his side, use all his Endeavours to restore and augment his Troops to the number mentioned in the Treaty.

11. As to the Troops H. R. H. is to chuse those he shall think proper to enter into *France*, or to remain in *Piedmont* and *Lombardy*, and no General shall be allowed to make any difficulty to obey his Orders; and H. M. the Queen and the States-General will obtain from the Princes, to whom the Troops in their Pay belong, express Orders to their respective Generals that command them, so that H. R. H. may be absolutely the Master over them.

12. It is desired that H. R. H. may enter into *France* with the greatest number of Forces, which the Conjunctions of the Times, and the Situation of the Enemies may require, and all within the Month *May*, if it be possible, having always his principal Aim upon *Toulon*, which is to be the first Object of the Campaign.

13. 40,000 *l.* Sterling will be furnished for the extraordinary Expences. And if that Sum is not sufficient, We will give the Surplus, which shall be judged necessary by H. R. H. in whom We place an entire Confidence.

N. B. After the Return of the Courier this Article was changed, and the Queen sent 50,000 *l.* Sterling immediately to the Duke of *Savoy*, with a Promise, that if the Design upon *Toulon* should succeed, She would pay Bills, which the Duke of *Savoy* might draw, for 50,000 *l.* Sterling more.

14. There will be no Troops for a Debarquement on board the Fleet, whilst the Affairs of *Spain* won't permit it.

15. The Expedition of *Naples* that was proposed, is excluded, as being judged at present impracticable, and hurtful to the Campaign in *France*.

If H. R. H. has any thing to object or to add to these Articles, he is desired to do it by an Express, that so a final Resolution may be taken about his Remonstrances, and be sent him by the same Express at his Return.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 7. 1707. O. S.

YOUR Lordship's Instructions being prepared, I am commanded by Her Majesty to desire you would return to Town, as soon as possible, that you may prepare for your Journey; and whereas it will be necessary for the Service, that you should take *Vienna* in your way, I hope you will go away Post as soon as possible, with what Servants you have absolute need of; and the rest, together with your Equipage, will follow. If your Lordship has any Commands for me, before I have the Honour of seeing you in Town, I hope you will let me know them, being with great Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 7. 1707. O. S.

HAVING received by the last Post an account of an Agreement between Prince *Eugene* and the Prince of *Vaudemont*, for the withdrawing all the *French* Troops out of *Italy*, and apprehending lest the Court of *Vienna*, upon this, may be more intent than ever, upon the Design of sending Troops to the Kingdom of *Naples*, and *Monf. Vryberge* having, in a Memorial to Her Majesty, represented the same thing, Her Majesty has commanded me to acquaint your Lordship, that it is Her Pleasure, that you hasten your Journey to *Vienna*, as much as possible, and that you do represent to that Court, in Her Majesty's Name, how destructive any such Design would be to the carrying on the War in *Dauphiné* and *Provence*, which is settled and concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*, and which is the only way by which *France* can be affected, or a Diversion made in favour of King *Charles*; I will not enlarge upon this, because you will receive it more fully from Mr. Secretary *Harley*. I send you inclosed a Copy of the Convention between Prince *Eugene* and Prince *Vaudemont*, and of another Paper, which is the Duke of *Savoy's* Remarks upon some of the Articles, and also of *Monf. Vryberge's* Memorial. I take for granted, this will find you still at *Harwich*, where I am afraid this Wind will keep you but too long. I wish you a good Voyage, and every thing to your Satisfaction, and am with great Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 18. 1707.

I Am very sorry the ill State of my Health rendered me so unfortunate, as not to find your Lordship at your own House, and that I was not in a Condition to receive your Excellency, when you did me the honour to call at mine, before you left the Town. I thought I should not have had Occasion to give you any trouble so soon, more than to wish your Excellency a happy and prosperous Journey; but this Morning *Monf. Vryberge*, the Envoy of the States-General, delivered a Memorial to Her Majesty, a Copy whereof the Queen has commanded me to transmit to your Excellency, that you may see the Opinion of the States upon that Affair in *Italy*, in which Her Majesty doth intirely concur; and therefore you will please, both at *Vienna*, and all other Places, where you shall think it necessary, to express Her Majesty's Sentiments upon that Affair, and do your utmost to prevent any Alteration of the Project, which has been agreed with Prince *Eugene* for carrying the War into *France*, under Pretence of taking *Naples* and *Sicily*, which are

are Views no ways to be brought into Comparifon with the other Design.
I am with the greateft Refpect, &c.

RO. HARLEY.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Hague, March 25. 1707.

I Found at my Arrival here, from Mr. Secretary *Harley*, the fame Directions which I carried from Her Majesty, in relation to the Project concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*. I have waited on the Pensionary this day, and informed him how intirely Her Majesty did concur with the States-General in that Affair, and that I was going to *Vienna* in a few days. I have wrote to Mr. Secretary *Harley*, and as soon as I have settled my own Affairs, nothing will prevent me from continuing my Journey, which I shall give your Lordship an account of, as often as I can. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

My Lord,

Hague, March 25. 1707.

I Cannot omit the first Opportunity to assure your Grace, that I shall always be very desirous to receive your Directions, which, I am sensible, will be of great advantage to me in particular, and also for Her Majesty's Service. I have waited on the Pensionary, and I told him that I had Orders to make what haste I could to *Vienna*, and that Her Majesty did entirely concur with the States-General, in relation to the Project concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*. He seemed to think that the Agreement, that is made in *Italy*, for the *French* Troops to retire to *Susa*, may be of ill Consequence, and this he supposes is the Reason why Her Majesty nor the States-General were not made acquainted with it from the Imperial Court, lest they should have dissuaded them from it. I told him, that my Stay here would be very short, and that he could not but be sensible, that it might be necessary that I should be at *Vienna*, as soon as possible; that I did not think of staying any longer there, and that I had Orders from Her Majesty to act in concert with the Minister of the States-General in every thing that may be for the Common Cause. He seemed very easy, and said he hoped *Monf. Amelot* might be at *Vienna* at the same time, and that the States would give the same Directions with those of the Queen. So that I think I have nothing to do here, and I intend to set out for *Dusseldorp*, as soon as I can: there I shall pursue the Directions your Grace thought proper to give me, and so go on to *Mayence*, in case the Elector is there. I made your Grace's Compliments to the Pensionary, and he is very glad to hear that you intend to be here so soon. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary HARLEY.

S I R,

Hague, March 25. 1707.

LAST Night I came to this Place, where I received the favour of yours of the 18th Instant, with the Copy of the Memorial of *M. Vryberge*. I have since waited on the Pensionary, to acquaint him that Her Majesty did entirely concur with the States-General in that Affair, and that I had Orders to use what Diligence I could for *Vienna*, in order to prevent any Alteration in the Project concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*, for carrying the War into *France* on that side. I found, by the Advices he had received from *Vienna*, that he is apprehensive that the Imperial Court may have a particular View towards *Naples*, which is certain will be of fatal Consequence. Besides, the manner of evacuating all the Places by the *French* Troops in *Italy*, without the least notice of it, either to the Queen or to the States-General, gives them some Reasons to mistrust the Intentions of that Court. He tells me, that they have received an Answer from *Monf. Amelot*, and that the Elector Palatine will order the Recruits, he is to send, for *Italy*. I hope I shall be able to set out for *Dusseldorp* in a few days, and then nothing will, I hope, prevent my being soon at *Vienna*, where I shall execute Her Majesty's Com-

mands.

mands to the utmost of my power. I shall continue to send you an account how I proceed, as often as I can. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Brussels, March 28. 1707.

I Am heartily sorry that it has so happened, that I should be absent from the *Hague*, at the time your Excellency arrived there, being thereby hindered of shewing your Excellency that Respect and Observance, which I should most gladly have done in my Station. I must now supply that defect by the humble Offer of my Service, if your Lordship has any Commands for me in these Parts, or at the *Hague*, when I return thither. I recommend Mr. *Bruyninx* most particularly to your Acquaintance, when you get to *Vienna*. He is an able and honest Man, and may be of use to your Lordship in the Business you go upon. I am, &c.

GEORGE STEPNEY.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Hague, March 29. 1707.

THE disposing of my Equipage, which goes strait to *Venice*, has made my Stay here somewhat longer. Though when Your Lordship considers the many Visits I had to return, and to see the Chief People, you will think I get away soon. I believe the Duke of *Marlborough* will find all Things in a good Disposition. The last Proposals of *France* fall short of what they formerly made, which determine them here more for War than ever. *Monf. Vellen*, whose Character Your Lordship knows, made me a visit; he seemed to say that they must come to other Terms. The greatest Apprehension they have here, is for *Spain*, especially by the Duke of *Orleans's* going into *Catalonia*; and because 24 Battalions and 15 Squadrons are ordered from the *Dauphiné* thither, which, they say here, may be depended on. It was well the Agreement for the *Hessians* in *Italy* was signed; for the next Day the Minister of the *Landgrave* received Orders to acquaint the States, that since the *French* Troops were to retire out of *Italy*, there was no Occasion of leaving his Troops there. Here is a farther Confirmation of the King of *Prussia's* sending 3500 Men of his old Troops. The Treaty with the *Grisons* for their Passage thro' that Country is signed. They write from *Vienna*, that it is determined that Prince *Eugene* shall stay in *Italy*, and that *Monf. Staremborg* shall command with the Margrave of *Bareith* on the *Rhine*, which he is very willing to do. I shall set out on *Thursday* next for *Dusseldorp*, where I will press the Elector about his Recruits. I do not doubt but he will promise fair; but he is so ill served, that there is no depending on him. I know the Elector will also be very pressing in the Affair of the *Upper Palatinate*, as I see by his Minister here. I told him, that the Way to make the Instances of H. M. more prevalent at *Vienna*, was by their sending their Recruits, which were so absolutely necessary, into *Italy*. I find that from thence I must go to *Frankfort*, and then to *Mayence*, which will be out of the way; but I shall see how I can do, for I would make all the haste I can for *Vienna*, where Your Lordship thinks my Presence is so necessary, as they are here also of the same Opinion. I understand that they are come to a Resolution of putting their Affairs, as they style them, into my hands, and that their Minister at *Vienna* is to apply to me. I wish I may find that Court disposed to satisfy the Duke of *Savoy*. As for the Project concerted, it will not be in their power to alter it. I am &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Hanover, April 1. 1707.

AS I cannot have the Pleasure of seeing you here after so long an Absence, it is at least some comfort to me that you shew yourself displeased

pleased at it, and that this has not diminished the Affection which you have always kept for me and for my House; for which I am intirely obliged to you, as also for expressing your joy on the Birth of my Great Grandson, to whom you judge that the Union may one day be advantageous. I rejoice in the mean while that this great Event has happened in the Reign of our Great Queen, who renders Herself glorious all manner of Ways, in which I take great part. I wish you also a happy Journey, and I hope that in your Return, I may tell you myself that I shall always be with the same Esteem for your Person,

Your affectionate to serve you,

SOPHIA Electress.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Hanover, April 5. 1707.

I Am very much obliged to you for the Letter you gave yourself the Trouble to write from the *Hague*. I hear with great regret, that the Affairs with which the Queen has charged you, for the Courts of *Mayence* and *Dusseldorp*, will hinder you from passing through *Hanover*. I should have had a very great Pleasure in seeing you there, and to shew you how sensible I am of what you have done, on several Occasions, for the Interest of my House. You may assure yourself, that I have a very particular Consideration for your Person, and that I will always seek for Occasions to let you see that I am very sincerely,

My Lord, Your most affectionate,

GEORGE LOUIS Elector.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 25. 1707. O. S.

I Have the Honour of Your Lordship's of the 29th of *March N. S.* from the *Hague*, and I am glad to find all Things in so good a Disposition at the *Hague*. I know *Monf. Veland* enough to know, that if he is not satisfied with the Terms offered by *France*, they must be very scandalous ones indeed. I am glad you intend to make so much haste to *Vienna*, and that the States have put their Affairs in your Hands, for the sooner you are there, the better; for they are so intent there upon their Project of *Naples*, that I believe all your Endeavours will be necessary to keep them from it, as what must disappoint in great measure the main Design of carrying the War into *France*. I shall not fail to send Your Lordship, by the next Post, a Copy of the Project as concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*. I shall also, from time to time, acquaint you with the Advices from *Spain* and *Portugal*. I wish you a good Journey, and every thing to your Satisfaction, and am with great Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

My Lord,

Dusseldorp, April 5. 1707.

THE Person who will have the Honour to present this Letter to your Grace, is a perfect Stranger to me, though I have inquired after his Character. I do not know what he has to propose; but he being very pressing, and saying it was very much for your Grace's Service, and that he intended to go to the *Hague*; I did not think it proper to refuse him, and I do find that he is known here, and that he is the Brother to a Merchant at *Cologn*. He tells me, that he could have a Letter of Recommendation from the Elector, in case there was occasion. I have inclosed the Paper he gave me, and if the Propositions be such as he pretends, I shall be extreamly glad to have contributed towards it; if otherwise, your Grace will pardon this Liberty.

I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

April 8. 1707.

WE are at last come to the favourable Moment, to be able to undertake the Conquest of *Naples* with all the Appearances of a speedy and happy Success. The Kingdom is intirely unprovided with Troops: the People shew openly enough a good Disposition for the very August House, and they are at liberty to follow it. The Retreat of the Enemies out of *Lombardy* will give still more Courage to the Well-intentioned. We have even all the Reason to believe that *France* has already resolved to renounce that Kingdom, which she would besides have difficulty enough to support. The Cabinet of *France* will reflect without doubt that the sending a small Body of Men, would be sacrificing them with the Country, and she cannot send thither a great one without unarming the Frontiers on the side of *Piedmont*, which is intirely open, after the Demolition she has made of *Nice* and *Montmeillan*, rather to satisfy her Animosity against H. R. H. of *Savoy*, than to follow her Intentions. Our Army will be stronger, and in a better Condition to act than that of the last Campaign, which has surmounted so many Obstacles. All the Troops of the Allies remain in *Italy*. The Imperial Army will be reinforced considerably, by the Recruits, and the Remounting: That of H. R. H. will be re-established to the Number of 17000 Men. We are here almost ready to undertake the Expedition of *Naples*, and the Entry into *France*, both at the same time. The Enemies will not be able in this uncertainty to send Troops into the Kingdom of *Naples*, which they would hereafter not be able either to withdraw or to reinforce, as soon as the Fleet shall appear in the *Mediterranean*. On our side, we can carry on that War with all sort of Convenience and Advantage. Our Troops, and especially our Horse will go by Land, whilst *France* will be obliged to immense Difficulties and Expences to embark their Cavalry. She may remember the Consequences of the Engagements at *Messina*: the too great distance did cause her so great a Diversion, that the Court of *France* was at last persuaded to abandon, scandalously enough, that Enterprize, at a time when she made war every where else with advantage enough. But if she would even make all Sorts of Efforts, we shall be always able to make Detachments from this Army great enough to maintain a Superiority. So that she will either ruin herself in supporting a distant War, full of Expence and Difficulty, or we shall have fair play, and we can finish this Expedition in one March, and even make use elsewhere of the Troops, that will not be necessary to guard the Country; whence we can easily imbarck the Foot, and transport them in a little time to *Final*, or perhaps into *Provence*. We could even, in case of Necessity, send them into *Spain*. I have made good use of these Reasons to persuade the Ministers of *England* and *Holland* of the Facility of this Enterprize. I have shewn them, that it does not hinder us at all in any of the Operations, and the View we have of entering into *France*, which they have much at heart; and far from that, the Conquest of those two Kingdoms will facilitate the means to push that War more vigorously, and to finish it perhaps more quickly; whilst it may chance to determine the *Spaniards* to return to their Duty, to preserve the Estates in *Italy* to their Monarchy. I have also endeavoured to confirm H. R. H. in the first Resolutions which were taken, and of which we formed the Projects at the end of the last Campaign, which were then sent to *England*; whilst he was very much attacked by the Remonstrances and the Difficulties, which the two Powers made, and by the Zeal he has to push his Point vigorously on the side of *France*, according to the Desire and the Instances of *England* and *Holland*, and the Hopes we have to cause some Commotions. H. R. H. has declared, that he would submit to what the Emperor shall order about it, and that he will be ready to execute it.

To Mr. Secretary HARLEY.

S I R,

Frankfort, April 10. 1707.

I Had not time to write to you from *Dusseldorp*, neither was there any thing material that required Haste. I came thither on the 4th about Noon, and I had an Audience of the Elector that Evening; where, after a Compliment in the Name of Her Majesty, I acquainted him with my Orders, in relation to his Interests at the Court of *Vienna*; and that the Queen's Minister, who was going to reside there, would have the same Instructions. He expressed a very great Sense of Her Majesty's Goodness to him, and he did enter into the whole matter of his Right to the Upper Palatinate, with some Warmth, complaining of the Usage of that Court. He mentioned, besides his several Titles, also a Treaty between the late Emperor and him, wherein it is agreed, that he shall be put in possession; which is since renewed by the present Emperor. I also told him, that it was of the last Importance, that his Troops in *Italy* should be immediately recruited; that Her Majesty did not doubt but he had put it in such a Method, as that I might find them so at my Arrival in *Italy*. I must confess that I very much fear it, tho' I am persuaded he will do all that is possible, for he seemed not to disguise the Difficulties he was under; as that his Officers were but lately arrived from *Italy*, and that the last Accounts he had were, that his Troops were at the Blockade of *Cremona*: That he was buying a Battalion at *Onspach*, and that nothing should be wanting that was in his power to do. As to the Affair on the *Upper Rhine*, he says there will be an Army of 60,000 Men. That the Emperor will make his 12000, the Circles have agreed on 20,000. This with the rest that are there, and will be there, makes up the Number; that there was also Care taken for a sufficient Quantity of Ammunition, &c. His two Chief Ministers were to see me, and I did find them agree in every thing the Elector had told me. I did press them also about the Recruits in *Italy*. The next day I had an Audience of the Electores, and in the Evening I took leave of both them. I need not mention the Expressions they both made use of in relation to Her Majesty, and how great a Sense they should ever have of it. The Electores recommended to me the Interest of their House, and also that of *Florence*. I found by the Elector, that the Great Duke had agreed to pay 100,000 Pistoles; but that the Imperial Court insisted on 300,000, which he thought very extravagant, and which they seemed to own at *Vienna*; but that they thought it just, since he had contributed, and was one of the chief Instruments in procuring the Will, in favour of the Duke of *Anjou*. That they threatened to send Troops thither, as also to *Genoa*, in case they would not pay what was demanded. I cannot tell what may be the Consequence, in case the Imperial Court should carry this matter too far. But if these Sums are actually employed in carrying on the War in *Italy*, we have no great reason to complain. The Elector of *Mayence* being at *Bamberg*, I shall not wait on him, but to-morrow I shall set out for *Vienna*, where I shall certainly be in ten days. I suppose the Wind has been contrary, for I have received no Letters, nor shall I now 'till I come to *Vienna*; where I shall pursue my Instructions, and acquaint you how I find Matters there. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 4. 1707. O. S.

I Have nothing this Post to trouble your Lordship with, but to send you the inclosed Paper, which is a Copy of the Project concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*. As to the general Design of entering *France*, they have been acquainted with it at *Vienna*; but as for the particular Design upon *Toulon*, they have not, at least from hence, so that except they should mention it to you, you will take no other notice to them, but to press them to do

do every thing towards the main Design of carrying the War into *France*, and therefore above all things to lay aside their Project of *Naples*. I am, &c.
SUNDERLAND

To Mr. Secretary HARLEY.

S I R,

Vienna, April 25. 1707.

I Arrived here on the 21st, and had been here sooner, had I not met with contrary Winds on the *Danube*; tho' I find it would have been much the same thing, for this Week every one is in Devotion. I have nevertheless seen Mons. de *Zinzendorf* and Mons. *Wratiflaw*, and did not fail to take the first Opportunity to shew them the ill Consequence to the intended Design of prosecuting the War into *France*, should they first undertake that of *Naples*; and I did acquaint them with the Orders I had received from Her Majesty. As for Count *Zinzendorf*, he was not so positive as the latter; but they both agreed in this, that it would not in the least prejudice that Undertaking: For, since the *French* were entirely out of *Italy*, there were Troops sufficient for both. That Prince *Eugene* was to stay, tho' his Presence would have been of very great Consequence; that they had given their Reasons to Mons. *Dopf*, which they hoped would satisfy Her Majesty, as also the States-General. I had a great deal of Discourse on that Subject; which the latter, who I fear has no great Opinion of the Project, concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*. When I pressed that matter, he did say, that, by the Grand Alliance, that of *Naples* was first to be undertaken, and that the Emperor was not able to sustain this War, without some Assistance of that nature; that every thing was ready here, and they had reason to believe they should succeed with a small number of Troops. I do not doubt but Her Majesty is already informed of the Reasons they alledge, and I cannot but think, tho' they do not positively own it, that the Orders are already gone to *Italy*. I have not as yet seen the Prince of *Salms*, he being indisposed. I believe I shall have my Audience of the Emperor in a few days. I fear the Duke of *Marlborough* is still in *England*, for there are now three Posts wanting here. I have received none from *England*, since I left the *Hague*. I hope by the next Post to give you a further Account, and I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Vienna, April 27. 1707.

Y Esterday I had my Audience of the Emperor, when, after I had made him the usual Compliments on the part of Her Majesty, and told him how great a Satisfaction it was to Her, as also to Her Allies, that His Majesty had granted the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan* to the King of *Spain*, and that Her Majesty had commanded me to receive his Orders before I went to *Italy*; then I acquainted him that the Expedition into *France* was of the last consequence, not only in relation to the Common Cause, but also to the securing the Crown of *Spain* to the King; that Her Majesty did hope, that he had given all the necessary Directions, in order to support it as far as it is possible; that it was a matter, that so nearly concerned Her Majesty, in regard it related to the King of *Spain*, that She did hope there would be no Objections made to it. I also took notice of the Orders I had received in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*. The Emperor answered me, in relation to Her Majesty, with all the Acknowledgments imaginable, but did not touch on any thing of the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan*. As to the Duke of *Savoy*, he said, that he had done, and would do what remained, not only in regard to him, whom he spoke extream well of, but also in regard to the Queen. I have again pressed all the Ministers to lay aside for the present, the sending a Detachment to *Naples*, &c. Here are no Letters as yet come from *England* by the Post. Yesterday arrived an Express from Count *Galas*. The Letters are of the 9th instant O. S. I perceive they do not please here, for they are much set on the Expedition

to

to *Naples*. I asked Monf. *Zinzendorf* whether the Reasons they had given Monf. *Dopf* had changed their Minds in *England* in the Affair of *Naples*: but he seemed to own it had not. To-morrow I am to discourse with him fully, and I shall persist till I have Orders to the contrary: but they are so taken up here, with Ceremonies and Devotions, and other Entertainments, that it is hard to find time. I shall have my Audience of the Empress Dowager to-morrow, but that of the Empress not till *Sunday*, because she goes out of Town with the Emperor a hunting. I do not see that I shall prevail much with the Ministers here in what relates to the Duke of *Savoy*, though I will do what I can, at least to satisfy him. I have not been wanting in obeying the Queen's Orders: but, to tell you plainly, I find they are uneasy to have granted him so much, and they do apprehend that he has too great a Power over the *Milanese* already. The mentioned Express brings Word, that my Lord *Marlborough* is gone for *Saxony*, where he is supposed to be by this Time, or very near it. It does please here very much, for they are under no little Apprehension from that Side. I do not doubt but he will be as successful there as he is in all he undertakes. I am impatient to leave this Place, but I cannot tell yet when I can do it. I find by the Envoy of *Holland* that the Affair of *Hungary* is intirely broke off. I do not write by this Post to Mr. Secretary *Harley*, so I desire you will acquaint him with this. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The same Day his Excellency wrote to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and acquainted him with all that is wrote in the foregoing Letter to the Earl of *Sunderland*.

The Dutch ENVOY's Memorial.

Translated out of French.

THE States-General of the United Provinces have ordered the underwritten Minister at the Imperial Court, under the date of *April 11. 1707*, to represent here, That they must judge by the small Preparations that are made, by the said Court, in *Italy*, for the concerted Expedition against *France*, from that Side, that the Imperial Court takes the said Expedition very little to heart; but that it seems rather that they think here only on that of *Naples*, which their High-Mightinesses can however not approve of, nor can they find the Reasons alledged on the part of the said Court sufficient to justify it; because, the great Aim of the War and the Alliance being to bring *France* to Reason, the Invasion of *France* is the most certain and the most likely Method to do it, and the more the Forces that are to be employed in this shall be considerable, so much greater will be the Effect hoped from it, whilst the Expedition for *Naples* deviates from it, and cannot but lessen the Success of it, by lessening the Forces, without causing the Enemy any Diversion, and whilst we shall by this put ourselves in danger of losing *Spain*; which would be a Loss by no means to be made up by all the Advantages that can be obtained by the Expedition of *Naples*. It is therefore that their High-Mightinesses hope, that H. I. M. would still be pleased to desist from the said Expedition to *Naples*; and they have ordered their underwritten Minister to make the most pressing Instances, that all the Forces that are in *Italy* may be employed in the Expedition against *France*, and that all the necessary Preparations for this may be forthwith made, with more Seriousness and Application, than could hitherto be perceived. *Vienna, April 25, 1707.*

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 18, 1707. O. S.

I Had the Honour of your Lordship's Letter from *Frankfort* of the 10th of *April N. S.* and hope you are got before this to *Vienna*, where your Presence is, I fear, more and more necessary every Day; for by our Letters from the

the Duke of *Savoy*, he complains extremely of the Proceedings of that Court, so that your Lordship cannot press them in those Matters with too much Earnestness. I wish with all my heart your Representations may meet with Success. Lord *Marlborough* and Lord Treasurer have prepared the Way for you, in Writing as pressingly as is possible to Count *Wratislaw*. I am with great Truth and Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To Mr. Secretary HARLEY.

S I R,

Vienna, April 30. 1707.

BY the last Post I acquainted my Lord *Sunderland* with my Proceedings here, and I have very little to add. The Emperor returns from *Laxenburg* to-day, and I suppose I shall have my Audience of the Empress to-morrow. That of the Empress Dowager is over. Here are no Letters yet from *England*, so that I continue, as often as I see the Ministers, to persuade them to lay aside the Expedition to *Naples*, which I believe they will do, unless it be approved of by Her Majesty. What makes them more zealous in that Matter is, the Apprehension that in *Holland* they might be brought, at a general Peace, to consent to the dismembring it from the *Spanish* Monarchy, and if once they are in possession of it, *England* will never consent to it. They flatter themselves, that upon their appearing, the People will declare. As to the intended Expedition into *France*; it is certain that this Court has sent the Recruits they promised, as also the Mounting for their Horse. They also assure me, that they are doing what is necessary in relation to their Magazines; but I am confident that in this they will fall short, and I can easily perceive, that their meaning is, only till their Troops can enter into *France*, and then they must subsist themselves, or we must do it; which I find is the true Reason which makes them say, that of *Provence* is most practicable, because, as I suppose, they think they can be subsisted by our Fleet. They assure me, that what is agreed on will be performed. They wait, with a great deal of Impatience, the Success of the Duke of *Marlborough*. Count *Piper* did deliver a Memorial to the Emperor's Minister, in relation to the Battalion of *Moscovites*, &c. in such Terms, that he could not receive it. They did afterwards make some Alterations, but in Substance it is the same. You will now soon see the true Intentions of this Court in relation to the Malecontents: For they have seemed of late to desire an Accommodation, but it was on such Terms that they might easily judge were impossible. So that Matter is at an end, and they have procured a Bull from the Pope, for the excommunicating of Prince *Ragotzky*, and the rest of the considerable Men of the Catholics. Whether it goes so far as to all that adhere to them, I cannot tell. This is at present a Secret, but I suppose it will be soon otherwise, if they intend it shall have any Effect. I should imagine that they will not find their Account in it. It may be the Means to exasperate them, and it may possibly induce them to quit that Religion.

I am doing all I can in the Affair of the Duke of *Savoy*. I hope I shall soon bring it to some Conclusion. I wait to see what Orders I shall receive, for I believe there are some to come, which do not please this Court. After that, I shall go to *Turin*. I find they intend to send Count *Galas* for the *Hague*, and Count *Questenberg* for *England*. This is what *Monf. de Galas* does not like, and his Gentleman of the Horse is come here on that account. I have seen him who is intended for *England*, and he seems to own it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. ROBINSON, dated at Leipzig,
May the 4th, 1707.

ON the 26th past arrived his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough* in the Afternoon at *Hall*, whither myself, the Imperial, and *Holland* Envoys were gone to meet him; and being informed on the Way from thence to

to the *Swedish* Quarters, that the King of *Sweden* could not give him an Audience before the next Day, his Grace thought fit to go directly to Count *Piper's* Quarters; where the Count made ample Protestations how acceptable his Grace's coming would be to the King his Master, and appointed Eleven o'Clock the next Morning for his repair to the Head-Quarters, when his Majesty came from Church. His Grace went thence to the Quarters prepared for him, about an *English* Mile and a half from the King's, and the next Morning, at the time appointed went to wait on his Majesty. The Intendant of the Court and other Officers received his Grace, and in the Anti-chamber Count *Piper*, who conducted him into a Cabinet, where the King was with several Senators, Generals, and other Officers about him. His Grace made a short Compliment in *English*, which I interpreted, as also the Answer that was made by Count *Piper*. Afterwards his Grace spoke in *French*, which his Majesty understands, but does not speak; and the Conversation was general for about an Hour, when his Majesty took the Duke with him to Dinner, placing him on his Right-hand, and Count *Piper* on his Majesty's Left: After Dinner he returned with his Majesty to the Room of Audience, which after a little while was voided by the rest of the Company, and then his Grace spoke at large, his Majesty giving great Attention to what was said, with all Appearances of much Content. Count *Piper* (who, together with Mr. *Hermelin* staid with the King) could not refrain from shedding some Tears at the very pathetick Expressions his Grace used to assure the King of Her Majesty's Friendship, and on the King's part made suitable Returns. Those Discourses, and others about military Matters, took up an Hour and a half, when his Majesty went again to Church. Afterwards his Grace made a visit to the Countess *Piper*, and had then a Conference with the Count, and from thence went to see the Feltmarshal *Reinshield's* Lady. On the 28th his Grace went to *Leipsig*, to wait on King *Augustus*, with whom he had a private Conference of about half an Hour, and then returned to Count *Piper's* Quarters, where he dined. He had that Afternoon a Conference with Count *Piper* and Baron *Gortz* about the Affairs of *Holstein*, in which Things were concerted to mutual content. In the Evening his Grace supped with the Feltmarshal *Reinshield*. The 29th his Grace was visited by Count *Piper*, Feltmarshal *Reinshield*, Feltmarshal *Ogilvy*, and many others; and after having dined with Baron *Gortz*, had his Audience of Leave of the King of *Sweden*. Before it was ended, notice was given that King *Stanislaus* was in the Anti-chamber; whereupon his Grace saying he had no Objection against his coming in, the King of *Sweden* went and brought him. Some Civilities passed between that King and his Grace, who soon after took his leave, and went to *Leipsig*, and thence, without making any stay, proceeded on his Journey to *Berlin*.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Vienna, May 4. 1707.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's of the 25th of *March*, as also that of the 4th of *April*, about the Project concerted with the Duke of *Savoy*, which I am obliged to you for. There is nothing so necessary as to be rightly informed: For though in the Discourses the Ministers here have mentioned these Facts; yet I could not positively tell whether they informed me right. I shall take notice of nothing to them but what is proper, and according to your Directions. I do find all the Recruits are sent, except 800 out of *Silesia*, and they assure me that they are marching. Besides, all here agree that it is so: But they are still zealous for the Expedition of *Naples*; these Troops, as they promise, shall not exceed 7000 Men, and that in case they do not succeed, they will not send a Man more; but those Troops are to canton, and to keep their Ground, till a more favourable Opportunity. General *Thaun* is to command them, and under him General *Kriegbaum*, who set out yesterday with Orders to Prince *Eugene* to have the Troops ready,

ready, and it may be to march, for there is no time to be lost: But I am still of Opinion they will wait till they see what the King of *Sweden* will do, and what Assurances the Duke of *Marlborough* has. Here are Letters come from thence, which mention that his Grace was in Conference with Count *Piper* for several Hours; that my Lord Duke arrived there on the 26th, and was to go away on the 29th, but they could not tell any Particulars. No Express is come here from the Emperor's Ministers, which makes them fear here that Things are not right. The Letters all agree that they very much doubt it, which, I believe, will be the only inducement to prevent the sending a Detachment to *Naples*. For the present, I take all Occasions to dissuade them from it; but their Answer is always what I have already mentioned, as also that there will be more Troops left, after this Detachment shall be made, than can be employed. The Emperor will have 35000 Men in *Italy*, and in our Pay, as they say, 20000. There should be 28000. But the *Hessians*, *Saxe-Gotha* and *Palatins* will not be complete. The Duke of *Savoy* has 13000. So that the Army will consist of about 68000 Men. Now the Conclusion is, that if 7000 out of this Army go, there will still remain Troops sufficient for Garrisons, and a very great Army for the Expedition, and more than can be subsisted. These are the Arguments they make use of, both to the Envoy of *Holland* and to myself. We still persist to persuade them to lay aside this Expedition for the present: What they will do, Time must shew, for nothing is certain here, as your Lordship cannot but know very well. I have delivered a Memorial in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*. They promise me an Answer in Writing, as I desire. I shall do every thing that lays in my power, but I do not expect much more than Words. I cannot yet tell when I shall leave this Place, though I will endeavour to do it next Week, unless I receive Orders from your Lordship to the contrary. I find they fear here that the King of *Sweden* has some Thoughts towards *Silesia* and *Bohemia*, and if he should make the least step that way, they will recall their Troops out of *Italy*, as also Prince *Eugene*; which will put an end to all the Designs there. I hear they have sent Orders to the Battalion of the *Moscovites* to disperse themselves, for the Emperor will not give any Occasion to the King of *Sweden*, to have a pretence to quarrel. Here are so many Ceremonies used, that I have not as yet had my Audience of the Empress. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Vienna, May 7. 1707.

HERE are no Letters from *England* by the *Dutch* Post; but the Orders the Envoy of *Holland* has received, continue the same in relation to the Expedition of *Naples*, which, they continue to say, cannot fail to succeed, all Things being prepared there for a general Revolution, and that, if they should not go, they would expose all their Friends. Here are some Persons of Quality of *Naples*, to whom they give Pensions. These are to go with the Troops, but I do not find as yet that they have any Orders. The Arguments here are still, That the Duke of *Savoy* does not propose, for this Expedition, more than 35000 Men. That there will be left a great Body of Men, after what is intended is executed. That they are very much surprised at our being so much against this Expedition, but they give me to understand that they know from whence all this comes. That there may be a particular View in a certain Prince, that the Duke of *Anjou* should have *Naples* at a general Peace. They are very well satisfied, by what I have said, that this can never be the Intention of *England*, or that they can ever agree to it. I must confess that, by all the Informations I can get, I cannot see but that there will be 70000 Men in *Italy*, and if the Detachment to *Naples* should amount to 10000 Men, and the Garrisons in *Lombardy* to 10000 more; there will still remain a very great Army. What

What there is to be apprehended is, that there are not those Magazines prepared, as, in case this Court is to do it, are necessary. I shall by the next Post acquaint your Lordship with the Answer I have in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*, and I intend to set out for *Turin* the 12th. I have had no Letters from *Saxony*, but the Accounts here are, That the Duke of *Marlborough* should say, that there was no Danger to be apprehended from thence. I do understand that Count *Rechteren* is coming hither to dissuade this Court from the Thoughts of *Naples*. In case they continue in the same Mind as at present, the Troops will be marched before he arrives: for they own that they cannot undertake such a March in the middle of Summer. What he will be able to do in the Affair of *Hungary*, is another Question. The Envoy of *Holland* has, at the desire of this Court, wrote to the Prince *Ragotzky*, and has also desired a Pass for Sir *Philip Meadows* and himself, to have it ready, in case there should be any hopes of a Treaty. There is to be a general Diet in *Hungary* on the 16th, and they are here apprehensive that the Measures to be taken there are only to gain time; for it is certain that they never intend, nor think it their Interest, to come to an Accommodation, but on their own Terms, which they do not expect to get but by Force. At my Audience of Leave, I shall again mention the Expedition of *France*. I hope to receive your Orders at *Turin*, where my stay will be but short, if I receive no Orders to the contrary. I send your Lordship the Letter of Count *Piper* to the Emperor's Minister in *Saxony*, with the Memorial, which has put them here under some Apprehension; though, I suppose, it will be soon over, if they can rely upon what Advices they have from *Saxony*. I do not write to Mr. Secretary *Harley*, having nothing very material. I have all the respect imaginable shewed me here. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Vienna, May 11. 1707.

I Believe you will have received, before this comes to your Lordship, the Certainty of the Detachment's going for *Naples*. It consists of five Regiments of Foot and five of Horse, which though not compleat, will amount to 10000 Men, as you will see by the inclosed. They are at present in the *Modenese*; and about the 16th Instant they begin their March to *Naples*. I have done all I could to persuade them to defer it. Their Arguments are still the same, only they say further, that Prince *Eugene* has wrote to *England* to satisfy the Queen, that it will not in the least prejudice the great Design against *France*. They have all often repeated, and do still promise, that there shall not be a Man more sent, let the Success be what it will, till they see the Event of the other Expedition, which, as I can perceive, they have no great Opinion of, though they agree that it ought to be attempted. I was in hopes to have sent the Memorial and the Answer, in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*, and to have taken my leave; but here are too many Ministers to have any thing dispatched, and I found it absolutely necessary to put it all in Writing, otherwise I should have never brought them to any Conclusion. They are so far from granting the *Novarese*, that I see plainly, that they are sorry they have been obliged to grant so much already; having all the Mistrust imaginable of the Intentions of the Duke of *Savoy*, which is not lessened at this Court by the other Princes of *Italy*. Count *Schonborn*, Vice-Chancellor of the Empire, is appointed to transact this Matter with me, though I am forced to sollicite all the others. I cannot but say, that they shew me all sort of Respect, and express on all Occasions that they owe their Preservation to the Queen. I am assured that they have here Letters, which they have intercepted, coming from *Switzerland*, from the Court of *France* to the King of *Sweden*, and I will endeavour to learn what they bring. All I observe is, that they seem more easy at Court than they have been. I have mentioned to the Ministers what relates to the King of *Prussia*.

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They pretend that they are ready to do what is desired; but they find Evasions, and are never for coming to a Conclusion. I have also mentioned what relates to the Elector Palatine, and I have satisfied the Ministers of both these Princes, here; which is all I could hope for. The Count *Schonborn* has now sent to me, so I hope I shall end that Matter, and set out, in a few days, for *Turin*. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

His Excellency wrote the same Day a Letter to the Duke of *Marlborough*, with the Accounts mentioned in the foregoing Letter.

Copy of a Letter from the Duke of MANTUA's Minister to the Earl of SUNDERLAND. Dated Venice, May 12. 1707.

Translated out of Latin.

Most Excellent Lord,

ALMOST all *Italy* being rescued by the victorious Confederate Arms, the most Serene Duke of *Mantua*; my Master, does not enjoy this Benefit, being hindered from the Possession of his Dominions, and the Restoration to the Governments of *Montferrat* and other Fiefs depending on the sacred *Roman* Empire. In the mean while, the Violence offered by the Arms of the most Christian King to the City of *Mantua* is notorious, and this was one of the Causes of the Declaration of War made against the said King on the 5th of *May* 1702, by H. M. S. M. the Emperor *Leopold* of happy and blessed Memory. The most humble Petition of my most Serene Master to the most August reigning Emperor, for the renewing of the Investiture, by Means of the Most Serene Duke of *Lorain*, as a mark of Obedience and observed Faith, is also notorious. Nevertheless, the Imperial Clemency and Justice is retarded. To obtain this, he wants the powerful Protection of your Most Glorious Queen, which he does not dare to implore, but by first humbly complimenting Her Majesty on her Accession to the Kingdoms of *England*, which he always had a mind to perform, had he not been hindered hitherto by being deprived of that Liberty. And as he is now ready to send his Messengers to declare the Duty he owes to Her Majesty, and as he has already ordered his Consul residing here to declare his Mind; he has again ordered me to pray your Excellency, that you would intreat and dispose the Clemency of her Majesty to deign to receive them. Among so many, and such heroick Actions performed by the August Queen, it will not be the least of her Fame, to grant her Protection to a Prince abandoned by all; nor let the Goodness of your Excellency's Merits in your Ministry fear to suffer, if you cause him to be sheltered under the Royal Protection, whilst he promises to be ever held by Ties of Gratitude and Faithfulness. Thus let my Most Serene Master declare himself to Her Majesty, whilst I devote myself with the profound Respect I owe you, &c.

The Count ARDIZZONI.

Minister of State to the Duke of MANTUA.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Vienna, May 14. 1707.

I Have received the Honour of your Lordship's of the 18th of *April*. I have pressed what relates to the Duke of *Savoy* with all the Zeal imaginable, and I have had an Answer to my Memorial, but only in general Terms; and as to the Equivalent, they say, that it was the Intention, though not mentioned in the Treaty, that it should be left till after the Peace; which the Duke of *Savoy* utterly denies. I told them, I could not receive the Answer. They have promised not to insist on that Point, and to make it more plain in several Particulars, after which it will be impossible for me to prevail any farther. It is certain the Ministers of the Duke of *Savoy* must know very little of this Court, to imagine they would grant the *Vigevenasco*, and much less the *Novaresé*; and I cannot till the next Post send your Lordship

ship the whole Proceedings. The Princess of *Wolfenbuttel* comes to-night, and soon after the Court goes to *Laxemburg*. I have had my Audiences of Leave of the Emperor and the Empress, and hope to set out in a few days for *Turin*.

The Ministers have spoke to me of the Proceedings of the King of *Sweden* towards this Court. His Envoy has again renewed, with strong Expressions, his Demands of having the *Moscovites* delivered to him by the Emperor, and Satisfaction for what has passed between the Count *Zobor* and his Minister; which he carries so high, as to make it a capital Crime, as also Reparation in that matter of *Breslaw*: and in case he has not immediate Satisfaction, he has Orders to go away. These Things make them very uneasy here, they lying so exposed. All this he has done within these few days, and since the Duke of *Marlborough* has been in *Saxony*, which they hoped had made all Things easy. I believe they have not yet determined what Measures to take, and I cannot tell whether it will not stop the Detachment for *Naples*, though by this time it should be marched. I do believe that they have wrote this whole Matter to *England*, to be laid before the Queen, and I hear they have also sent an Express to *Holland*. I wish it may not be the Occasion of recalling some Troops out of *Italy*, for their own Preservation. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 6. 1707.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 27th and 30th of *April*, N. S. and am very glad to find you have some Hopes, that that Court will lay aside their Thoughts of the Expedition to *Naples*. It always was very unseasonable, but will be particularly so now, since our great Misfortune in *Spain*, an Account of which you will have had from *France*, before now. We have it here no other way as yet; and though I don't doubt but the *French* magnify it very much, yet the Circumstances make one apprehend the main Part of it is but too true. Upon these accounts Her Majesty would have your Lordship insist, in the strongest manner possible, against this Expedition to *Naples*, as that which will very much obstruct, if not totally defeat the main Design of entering *France* by *Dauphiné* or *Provence*, which seems to be the only means of bringing *France* to Reason, and retrieving our Misfortune in *Spain*. I am sorry to find there is that Averseness in the Court of *Vienna* to their giving reasonable Satisfaction to the Duke of *Savoy*, but I hope your Instances may yet prevail in great measure, before you leave them. The Queen would have you continue them in the most earnest manner. Lord *Marlborough* has, I hope, left Matters with the King of *Sweden*, in as good a way as one could expect, which will be a great ease on that side. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

May 17. 1707.

I Received this Morning the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of *April* 30. I am heartily glad your Excellency has had so much success as to shake that Court from their speculative Expedition against *Naples*: But I am very sorry that the Misfortune of our Army in *Spain* is an irresistible Argument to lay aside wholly that Project; the Accounts we have of this Disaster are only got from *France*, yet they bring too many marks of Truth not to be credited so far, as that we have received a very great Loss there. The Queen has done all that is possible on the sudden Event, and in this great uncertainty, Orders are gone this Night to encourage the King of *Portugal* to keep firm to the Alliance, and likewise to *Holland* to consult with them the best way to recover the Blow: But all will be to no purpose, unless the Emperor will exert himself upon this Occasion, not only to lay aside the Expedition to *Naples*, to push vigorously into *France*, but also to act offensively upon the

Rhine.

Rhine. These are Points which the Queen hath so much at heart, that Her Majesty hath wrote to the Emperor with Her own Hand, which I inclose herewith to your Excellency, that you may please to deliver it with all possible speed, and that you may be better appriz'd of it. I inclose also a Copy for your own Perusal; your Excellency will enforce it with such Arguments, as you will find, according to your great Sagacity, may best incline H. I. M. to comply with so reasonable a Desire; and you will be pleas'd also to press the Emperor to send his Brother the King of *Spain* some Troops; without that, it will be hard for Her Majesty to prevail with the States-General to join with Her in sending more Troops. I hope my Lord *Rivers* will be prevail'd with to return immediately to *Spain*; it would be a very ill Return, if Her Majesty's Zeal should occasion a Coldness in the Court of *Vienna*. I am with the greatest Respect, &c.

RO. HARLEY.

*The QUEEN'S Letter to the EMPEROR.**Translated out of French.*

SIR, My Brother,

THE Advantage, which the Enemy has now obtained in *Spain*, might have such dismal Consequences, that I could not forbear to tell you that it is of the utmost Importance that all your Troops, that are in *Italy*, should be employed to make an Invasion into *France*, and that at the same time the Army in the Empire should act with Vigour on the *Rhine*. *Spain* is so far from the Countries, in which my Troops and those of the States-General are, that there is no Remedy so quick, nor so powerful, as that of making this Invasion. Your Majesty is too well informed to amuse yourself with a little Expedition, for some Member or Dependency of that Kingdom, when the Noble and Principal Parts of the Monarchy in question, the Honour and Welfare of My Brother the Catholick King, and in his Person the Dignity of the August House of *Austria*, are concerned. I promise Myself therefore from your Prudence, that you will think only on the Re-establishment of the Affairs of that Prince, by obliging his Enemies to recall their Troops for the Defence of their own Dominions. I am,

Kensington, May 6. 1707. Your Majesty's most Affectionate Sister, ANNE R.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Brussels, May 17. 1707.

I Did not receive the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 27th of last Month, 'till my Return from *Saxony* to the *Hague*, where I made so short a Stay, that I hope you will excuse my not answering it sooner. I have seen by other Letters from *Vienna* of later date, how obstinately they pursue the Expedition against *Naples*, notwithstanding all the Representations that have been made to dissuade them from it; a jealous Humour prevails so much at that Court, that they will not seriously weigh and consider their own Interest, so that the best Arguments are thrown away. I expect soon to hear whether our Misfortune in *Spain* has made such Impression as it ought with them: in the mean while I am glad to see, by Letters from *Turin*, that the Duke of *Savoy* pursues the Measures that have been concerted with him, with all the Earnestness we can desire. I arrived here two days ago, and immediately ordered the Troops to march to their Rendezvous near *Hall*, where I shall join the Army on Saturday, and then shall soon be able to guess by the Enemy's Motions what they design. They talk no less than of giving us Battle, which, in my Opinion, is what we ought most to desire; for tho' 'tis possible they may out-number us, yet I am sure they cannot equal us in Goodness of Troops. Your Excellency will have heard of the Misfortune arriv'd to our outward-bound *Portugal* Fleet, and of the Loss of the Convoy. I am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

To

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Vienna, May 18. 1707.

I Have at last obtained the Answer, and they have changed it in some Particulars, but I am sensible that it will not satisfy the Duke of Savoy. It is certain that their Intention is not to proceed any further in relation to the Equivalent, or the Investitures, 'till after a Peace. I hear also that the Duke of Lorain's Envoy has presented a Memorial to the Emperor, and in it there is his Protest, as Heir to the Montferrat, after the death of the Duke of Mantua. It is true, that by the Treaty the Emperor is to find him an Equivalent to satisfy him. I have used all the Arguments that are possible to be used, and have twice declined taking the Answer, and should not have took it, in case they had not altered it there, where they would have engaged the Queen to persuade the Duke of Savoy to defer it 'till after the Peace. The Prince of Salms has at present the whole Power, and the Emperor does nothing without him. I do not see that Lord T. and Lord M's writing to Mons. Wratislaw and Count Zinzendorf had any Effect, and I believe they were little consulted. The Vice-Chancellor of the Empire was the Person appointed to treat with me, and I assure you that he is the best disposed, and would have things go according to Justice and Reason: but here they are for doing nothing, and the number of Ministers, which oppose each other, make it impossible to do any thing. The Detachment for Naples is advanced to Bologna, and in a Month's time they will be on the Borders of that Kingdom. General Thaun has received 50,000 Pistoles, and he expected a greater Sum. All this Matter is concerted with Prince Eugene, and they say the Duke of Savoy is easy, and that it will not prejudice the Expedition into France. Count Martinitz sets out soon for Naples as the Emperor's Plenipotentiary; and it is proposed, that the Empress Dowager should go thither, to govern the Kingdom in the Name of the King of Spain. She is against it, but they have wrote to the Elector Palatine to persuade her. The Envoy of Sweden is gone without seeing the Emperor. He still persists in his Demands of the Moscovites, &c. They have given him a Representation in writing, and have endeavoured to satisfy him: but as he is much disgusted at this Court, and is related to Count Piper; it is very much doubted whether these Reasons will prevail with the King of Sweden. Just now the Prince of Salms has sent me an Extract of a Letter, which I send your Lordship. It is to shew that the Duke of Savoy is satisfied. I shall set out tomorrow for Turin. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Answer given by the Imperial Court. The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Memorial mentioned in the foregoing Letter.

Translated out of French.

Translated out of French.

1. HIS I. M. has all the Consideration which he ought to have for the High Remonstances of H. M. the Queen of Great Britain, and acknowledges also the extraordinary Merits which H. R. H. has deserved from the August House and the Common Cause.

2. He knows what has been stipulated in that Treaty, as well in respect to the Montferrat, as about the

THE Earl of Manchester represents most humbly, by Order of the Queen of Great-Britain his Mistress, to his I. M. and prays him to have the Goodness to reflect on the great and important Services, which H. R. H. the Duke of Savoy has done to the most August House of Austria, as also to the whole Common Cause, for which he has so generously exposed not only all his Dominions, but also his Person, with a Courage and Conduct almost without an Example.

H. I. M. will have the Goodness to mind the 5th and 6th Articles of the Treaty made at Turin the 8th of November 1703. of which Treaty the Queen of Great-Britain and the States-General

are

the Provinces yielded from the Dutchy of *Milan*, and is firmly resolved to fulfill it in earnest, as far as it shall depend on him.

are Guarantees, at the Desire of H. I. M. *Leopold* of glorious Memory. By the said Articles it hath been stipulated, that in Consideration of the important Services which H. R. H. has done to the most August House of *Austria*, and the Common Cause, H. I. M. will give to H. R. H. the Investiture of that part of the *Montferrat* (besides that which H. R. H. is already in Possession of) which belonged formerly to the Duke of *Mantua*, with all the Cities, Castles, Villages, and Lands, thereunto belonging; and he will put H. R. H. in Possession of the said *Montferrat*, as soon as it shall be taken out of the Hands of the Enemy. H. I. M. promises to give the said Province to H. R. H. and his Heirs for ever, in full Propriety, with the Domains, Jurisdiction, Royalties, Revenues, and in general all the Rights and Privileges thereunto belonging, and in the same manner as the Dukes of *Mantua* have heretofore possessed it, as it is more amply explained in the said 15th Article. In the 6th Article of the said Treaty, H. I. M. promises to transfer and yield up, with the necessary and required Investitures, to H. R. H. his Posterity and Heirs, for ever, the Provinces of *Alexandria* and *Valencia*, with all the Lands thereunto belonging, in the same manner as the Kings of *Spain* have possessed them.

3. The Article does not mention the Cession of the *Vigevenasco*, which his late I. M. has constantly refused, but only an Equivalent. Neither is the Term immediately there mentioned; and it has been reported to H. I. M. that the Intention was to agree about it after the Peace, as the most proper and the most convenient time to regulate it. H. I. M. is still of that Sentiment, for very strong Reasons, suggested and partly approved of by H. R. H. himself, at the beginning of the Execution of the said Treaty, and doubts not but H. R. H. will conform himself to it, the rather because it cannot be proceeded in without the King of *Spain's* Concurrence: however, if H. R. H. will not consent to this, H. I. M. makes no Difficulty of writing to the K. of *Spain*, and to Pr. *Eugene*, to agree about it as soon as may be.

And as it is stipulated by the 2d Secret Article of the abovesaid Treaty, that the *Vigevenasco*, with the Cities, Villages, and Lands thereunto belonging, or in case Difficulties were started about this, an Equivalent should be immediately given into the Hands of H. R. H. H. M. the Queen hopes that there remain now no Difficulties, considering the important Services which H. R. H. has done, and that H. I. M. will put H. R. H. in the full Possession of the said Province, which consists of only 13 Villages, besides the City, of which it is composed; that H. I. M. will have the Goodness to give his Orders to Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* about this, or that he will at least cause Commissioners to be named, to regulate this Equivalent, without any further delay.

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4. The Consent of the Electoral College to the *Ban* of the Duke of *Mantua* is still unknown to H. I. M. he does however himself cause it to be hastened; and as soon as Affairs shall be prepared, he will not fail to execute this Point, as well as all the others of the Treaty.

5. These Projects have been already communicated to H. R. H. of *Savoy*, and they will be easily agreed on, provided they be conformable to the Stile of the Imperial Chancery.

6. H. I. M. expects daily the exact Informations concerning those Villages, and will afterwards order what is just and agreeable to the Treaty.

7. Tho' the Disasters and the Misfortunes befallen H. I. M. in *Hungary*, which he made all his Efforts to succour, might enough justify a longer delay of this Payment, to H. R. H. he will nevertheless endeavour to comply with it very soon, or to find such Expedients as H. R. H. shall have Reason to be contented with, and will give Orders about it to Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*.

8. H. I. M. is not informed of these Cavils, and as he is persuaded that the Dutchy of *Milan* has no Right or Jurisdiction over the Imperial Fiefs, which are mentioned in the *Diploma* of the Year 1690. which gives H. R. H. only a Right to obtain these Fiefs by Purchase, or other legal Title; He will take notice of it, and take care that the Ministers deputed by *Milan* shall not oppose

As it has been alledged that the Investiture of the *Montferrat* cannot be given before the Duke of *Mantua* is put in the *Ban* of the Empire; the Earl of *Manchester* being informed, that the Electors have consented to it, prays most humbly, that H. I. M. will publish forthwith the said *Ban*, that so all the Difficulties being removed, H. I. M. may give his last Orders for the Execution of the said Treaty, and that he may give the necessary and required Investitures, as well of all the Cessions in the *Milanesè*, as those of the *Montferrat*; praying H. I. M. to be so good as to order the dispatching of the Schemes of the said Investitures, according to the Disposition of the beforenamed Treaty, and according to the Memorial presented by the Count *Tarin*, Envoy Extraordinary of H. R. H. comprehending in it the four Villages named in the said Project of the Investiture for the Provinces yielded up in the *Milanesè*, and by virtue of the said Article, where it is said,

Translated out of Latin.

“ And where among the aforesaid Districts, as
“ above yielded, there shall be found some Vil-
“ lages or Places mix'd among them, tho' not de-
“ pending of them, so they be no more than four.

And whereas it has been represented to H. M. of *Great-Britain* that what H. R. H. has advanced for the Service of H. I. M. amounts to the Sum of 7,000,000 Livres of *Piedmont*; and whereas it appears, by a Declaration, which H. I. M. *Leopold* of glorious Memory did cause to be made to the Count *Tarin Imperiale*, on the 23d of *February* 1705. that H. R. H. shall be indemnified, either by certain Rents of the Dutchy of *Milan*, or by assigning equitable Funds; H. I. M. is very instantly prayed by the Earl of *Manchester*, by Order of H. M. the Queen, to give Orders for the finding an Expedient for this.

H. I. M. being also most humbly intreated by the said Earl of *Manchester*, to send his Orders to Prince *Eugene* to cause the stopping of all the Cavils, which the Ministers, deputed by the State of *Milan*, have raised lately against the 12th Article of the Treaty, which confirms and grants to H. R. H. of *Savoy*, by virtue of the Letters Patents of the Emperor *Leopold* of glorious Memory, executed on the 8th of *February* 1690, the Right to the Imperial Fiefs, which have some Dependence on the State of *Milan*, and over which the same State exercises its Jurisdiction, as it is explained at large in the aforesaid Articles.

it, when those Acquisitions shall be made in a due manner, and according to the Disposition of the Charter.

The Earl of *Manchester* having received Orders from the Queen his Mistress to go from hence for *Turin* to H. R. H. of *Savoy*, he hopes that H. I. M. will do him the Favour, to cause his Resolutions on every Article to be, as soon as possible, communicated to him, in writing, that so he may give an account of all to H. M. the Queen, and to H. R. H. of *Savoy*.

To Mr. Secretary HARLEY.

S I R,

Vienna, May 18. 1707.

I Have taken my Leave of this Court, and have obtain'd but this day the Answer in relation to the Duke of *Savoy*. I have had a good deal of Difficulty to bring them to this, which is far short of what the Ministers of the Duke of *Savoy* in *England* expected. It is certain, that their Intention here is to delay all the further Execution of the Treaty 'till after the Peace, and I suppose I shall find H. R. H. not in the least satisfied. I have not been wanting to press this Matter, and I have been here a Month. To-morrow I set out for *Turin*. They do assure me, I shall find every thing ready for the Expedition of *France*. The Detachment for *Naples* is now advanced to *Bologna*, and in about a Month more they will be in the Kingdom of *Naples*. They think themselves sure of Success. I have inclosed the Emperor's Credential Letter, and have nothing further to add, but that I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

His Excellency received the same day a Note from Mr. *Hamel Bruyninx*, Envoy from the States-General, to let him know that he had received from Prince *Salms* an Extract of a Letter, wherein it was said, among other things, that the Detachment for *Naples* was great enough to maintain a Superiority, which the Envoy said would by no means please his Masters at the *Hague*. It was then pretty plain, that the *Germans* had no great desire for *Spain*, but wanted only *Italy*, and that they had not the Expedition of *Toulon* at heart, fearing the aggrandizing the Duke of *Savoy*; whilst they did spread Reports as if that Prince was not to be trusted, and prepared to lay the blame on him, if, according to their wish, the Expedition should not succeed.

To my Lord-Treasurer, (GODOLPHIN.)

My Lord,

Vienna, May 18. 1707.

I Was unwilling to leave this Place without acquainting your Lordship with the Situation of Affairs here, where there are so many Ministers, each opposing the other, that every thing, how reasonable soever the matter is, meets with delays, and sometimes fatal ones. This has made the Emperor fling himself more than ever intirely into the hands of the Prince of *Salms*, who is so troubled with the Gout, that the Emperor comes to him. The whole Business of the rest is to bring their own Designs about thro' his means. I did not find one of them but what was extreamly bent on the Expedition of *Naples*, and speaking very doubtfully of that of *France*, and of the Difficulties it would meet with: not but that they all agree, it ought to be attempted, and the Emperor did assure me he had given the necessary Orders to Prince *Eugene*. I find that the subsisting this Army is still one of the Arguments against that Expedition, which makes me fear that they do not intend, or cannot contribute much towards it. I shall not fail acquainting your Lordship how I find Matters in *Italy*, and whether things are in that Readiness as they say here that they are. Count *Martinitz*, who was formerly at *Rome*, is to set out in a little time for *Naples*, as the Emperor's Plenipotentiary, as also the Duke of *Telefa*, who was the chief Person in the last Revolt, and has had the secret Management of this Affair; which, as I

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understand, is also concerted with Prince *Eugene*. The rest of the *Neapolitans* are to go when it shall be judged proper. They assure me that, by all the Advices they have (which they have found true in several Particulars) they have reason to think it will succeed. They say the Castles of *Naples* may hold out, because the *Germans* want Battering-Pieces, which they hope to be supplied with from our Fleet. The Detachment will be in 15 days at *Loretto*, and in about 15 more as far as *Rome*, when they will have but a few days more to the Borders. It has been proposed to the Empress Dowager to go thither, to govern in the Name of the King of *Spain*, which she is intirely against. They have wrote to the Elector Palatine to persuade her. It is certain, that there is a Cabal to remove her from the Emperor, which she is sensible of; tho' they pretend it is only because the *Neapolitans* desire it, being weary of Vice-Roys. They are here at present under all the Uneasiness imaginable about the King of *Sweden*, whose Envoy has again renewed his Demands, and is gone away without seeing the Emperor. It is too sure that they are not in a Condition to oppose the King of *Sweden*, and if he should declare for the *Hungarians*, which from thence they give out he will do, they must come to what Terms he pleases. They have endeavoured to satisfy the Envoy, and have represented their Reasons in relation to the *Moscovites*, &c. If the Envoy returns, these Matters may possibly be accommodated: but as he is related to Count *Piper*, and much disgusted at this Court, it is very much doubted. The *Swedish* Troops have lately committed great Disorders in *Silesia*, taking by Force the Emperor's Recruits; and the *Moscovites* think that they have more Reason to act in this manner, since the Emperor has owned King *Stanislaus*, and it is said that their Troops are advancing. So you may easily imagine under what Difficulties they are here. I have sent my Lord *Sunderland* the Answer to my Memorial, which I am sensible will not satisfy the Duke of *Savoy*. I soon perceived that there was nothing to be done here; but to convince H. R. H. that I had obeyed Her Majesty's Orders, I was desirous to have it in writing. I shall set out to-morrow for *Turin*, where I shall be glad to receive your Commands, being, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The same day his Excellency wrote to the Duke of *Marlborough*, in which Letter there was nothing particular, or what is not in the foregoing Letters. On the 2d of *June* in the Morning we arrived at *Milan*, where we found Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, the Duke of *Moles*, the Marquis de *Prie*, and the Earl of *Peterborough*. I was with Prince *Eugene*, and delivered him some Papers. His Excellency was with him and the other Ministers, and heard their Sentiments about the Expedition into *France*, which tho' very feasible, and much desired by the Duke of *Savoy*, was reasoned about as very difficult, if not impossible, by all the *Vienna* Party.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 9. 1707. O. S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's from *Vienna* of the 4th of *May*, N. S. and I am sorry to find that Court continues so obstinate in their wrong Measures, but I will still hope that the News of the fatal Blow we have had in *Spain*, will bring them to their Senses, so as not to divert their Arms from the only Part, where we may hope to retrieve that Misfortune; at least they must never hope to have the Queen's Consent to it, and this your Lordship will let them know in the strongest Manner, if you are yet there. I have nothing more but to assure you that I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *Lembecq*, May 25. 1707.

I Have received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 11th instant, and send this to Mr. *Chetwynd*, in hopes it may meet you at *Turin*, where I doubt not but you will find H. R. H. perfectly well inclined, and ready to concur

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concur in any thing that may promote the carrying on the Expedition into *France* with all possible Vigour. I am glad to see you have so good an Opinion of the Court of *Vienna*, for I have been for some time apprehensive they were not in so good Dispositions as were to be wished. Our Army has been assembled at this Camp four Days. That of the Enemy is come out of their Lines; so that the next March we make, we may be able to guess whether they design to meet us, as they give out. It is certain, they are very numerous; but our Troops are all in so good a Condition, that I think we can wish for nothing more than a Battle, to do our Part towards repairing the Misfortune in *Spain*. I am, &c. MARLBOROUGH.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, May 28. 1707.

I Hope that this will find your Excellency happily arrived at *Turin*. The Count of *Rechteren* arrived here the 25th instant; and tho' we have, according to our Orders newly received from their High and Mightinesses, again opposed the Expedition of *Naples*, and even protested against the bad Consequences which it may have, especially after the melancholy News of a Defeat in *Spain*, we have not been able to obtain that this Expedition be countermanded; these Ministers making use of the same Reasons which they alleged when your Excellency was here, which makes me wish the more to hear from your Excellency, how you have found things in *Italy*, and if the Conjectures of this Court are true in their utmost Extent, and above all whether there be so many Troops as they persuade themselves here; whether they apply themselves with Vigour to the Expedition against *France*; whether they be ready and agreed in regard to the Magazines; when the Passage of the Mountains will be practicable, and whether the Expedition to *Naples* will cause no Prejudice to the other. They had even given out, on the part of this Court, in *England* and in *Holland*, that your Excellency was intirely come into the same Sentiments with them, in this Affair, which T. H. M. write they can scarce believe, whilst they have seen the contrary in my Advices, and I do again this Day justice to Y. E. upon that, in writing to my Masters. The Count of *Schonborn* owns at last, that he has received the Conclusion of the Electoral College for the *Ban* of the Duke of *Mantua*, which is the cause of our pressing afresh with the Count *Tarini* for the Execution of the said *Ban*, and the Investiture of the *Montferrat* for the Duke of *Savoy*; and we shall see what will be the Success of it. Y. E. knows my Conjectures on this, and I wish I may be mistaken. I have spoke to the Prince of *Salms* about Count *Hamilton*, but he seemed a little cold on that Article, and I could draw no other Answer from him but only this, that the said Count has so many Friends and Patrons in this Court, that he does not want the Intercession of Y. E. I urged my Reasons, and those of Y. E. in the best manner I could, and I will see whether Count *Hamilton* desires that I should speak again about it. They are here still in great pain in regard to the King of *Sweden*, especially after the Escape of the two Battalions of *Moscovites* out of the Empire, which the King of *Sweden* demands with the strongest Instances. They have marched with great Secrecy and Swiftnefs, and this Court pretends to have known nothing of it, 'till they were already advanced near the Frontiers of *Poland*, having passed through *Bohemia*, *Moravia* and *Silesia*. There has been a great deal to do at this Court, in regard to the provisional Administration of the Vice-Royalty of *Naples*: The King of *Spain*, and most of the *Italians* being inclined for the Cardinal *Grimani*, and the Emperor has determin'd this Affair in favour of the Count of *Martinitz*, formerly Ambassador at *Rome*, and Marshal of this Court. But what will they say, if they should by chance count without their Host? I hope, my Lord, that you will communicate this Letter, as far as it relates to publick Business, to Mr. *Vander-Meer*; for I can send him to-day

to-day only the ordinary News, with a short Article relating to the Affairs of *Hungary*, which he will communicate to your Excellency. I am, &c.

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

The same day a Letter came from the Count *Tarin Imperiale*, Envoy from the Duke of *Savoy* at *Vienna*; but it contained nothing but what M. *Bruyninx* mentions.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Turin, June 8. 1707.

I Left *Vienna* on the 19th of *May*. On my Arrival at *Milan*, I was not a little surpris'd to find that our Misfortune in *Spain* was so great. I do understand that on the day before I left *Vienna*, that Court had Advice of it by an Express from Prince *Eugene*, but they did not communicate it to me. I came hither on the 5th instant, and I have waited on H. R. H. who would have received me with Ceremonies, as an Ambassador; but, having no such Character to him, I declined it. I find him very ready to begin the Expedition against *France*, as soon as our Fleet arrives, as your Lordship has already been informed by Mr. *Chetwynd* and Sir *John Norris*. The Envoy of *Spain* presses for 5000 Men to be sent to *Spain*: but since the Detachment for *Naples* does proceed, according to the positive Order from the Court of *Vienna* to Prince *Eugene*, I cannot see that any can be spared from this side, neither do I think that they will be inclined to send their Troops, unless it be from *Naples*, if they succeed, as they imagine they shall. I received here your Lordship's of *May* 6. O. S. as also one of the same date from Mr. Secretary *Harley*. I am satisfied, that had I been at *Vienna*, nothing could have prevailed with them to alter their Design of *Naples*. I shall assist Sir *John Norris*, but at present all things seem fixed. The Duke of *Savoy* is not in the least pleas'd with the Imperial Court, of which I shall soon acquaint you more fully. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To Mr. Secretary HARLEY.

S I R,

Turin, June 8. 1707.

I Received here the honour of your's of the 6th of *May*, with Her Majesty's Letter for the Emperor. I do find they had at *Vienna* the notice of our Misfortune in *Spain* on the 18th, which was the day before I left that Place, by an Express from Prince *Eugene*, which they did not think fit to communicate to me; and that, at the same time, Mr. *Chetwynd* had given me an account of that Matter, and directed it to the *Dutch* Envoy in case I was gone; which Letter that Envoy received some time after by the Post. I am sensible, that had I stay'd, there was no Possibility of stopping the Detachment for *Naples*: for they have since sent a positive Order to Prince *Eugene*, and threaten'd him, if they did not proceed. What they alledge since, is, that our Fleet being not come, they may be embarked as well from thence, in case it is thought proper: but I fear the Court of *Vienna* will not be very ready to send any of their Troops to *Spain*. I have inclos'd Her Majesty's Letter, and I do not doubt but Sir *Philip Meadows*, who I understand is on his way to *Vienna*, will have the necessary Orders. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Turin, June 15. 1707.

I Thought once not to write by this Post, because we are apprehensive that the *French* being now at *Studgard*, the Letters may be intercepted; so that Sir *John Norris* intends to send those from Admiral *Shovel* by the way of *Venice*. I have had several Discourses with H. R. H. on his own Affairs. He is sending Mons. *de Mellerade* to *Vienna*, who understands the Constitutions of the Empire, and will be better able to settle what relates to the Investitures. The Answer to what I had at *Vienna* is preparing, and I will send it your Lordship, that

that so Sir *Philip Meadows* may have Directions to concur with the *Savoy* Minister at *Vienna*. The Duke of *Savoy* is not in the least disposed to leave the settling of the Equivalent 'till after the Peace, nor does he think it necessary that the King of *Spain* should concur, the Treaty being between him and the Emperor. We do not doubt but the Fleet is now at *Final*. Prince *Eugene* is here, and every thing is preparing to take the Field. I intend to stay 'till near the time H. R. H. is going, which will not be long. My Lord *Peterborough* is gone to *Vienna*, and from thence he intends for *Flanders*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Pera of Constantinople, June 17. 1707.

THE Favours I have received from your Excellency, and the Happiness I formerly enjoyed of receiving your Lordship's Orders, encourage me to meet you with my Respects, and my hearty Wishes for your Satisfaction in all the Success of your Negotiations; which I am sure will be justly due to your Lordship's known Abilities and Experience in publick Affairs. I should be glad if the Place, where I have my Station, could furnish any thing for your Excellency's Information or Entertainment: but I think it is the good Fortune of Christendom that things are in so quiet a State here, that I cannot foresee that I shall have frequent Occasions of being troublesome to you; so that the Happiness of receiving the Honour of your Excellency's Commands will be more obliging to me, the less I am able to deserve it. However, if your Lordship esteems me capable to serve you here, I am in hopes you will bestow that new Favour upon me. Your Lordship is informed that the *Porte* engaged itself by the late Treaties to restrain the Incursions of the *Tartars* into *Moscow* and *Poland*, which were formerly allowed, even in time of Peace. This Circumstance renders them so uneasy, that they use all their Artifice to alarm the *Porte*, making frequent Complaints against the *Moscovites*, and endeavouring to create Broils and Quarrels. A *Tartar-Han* was about three Years ago displaced and banished for Attempts of this nature. Nevertheless some Months ago the late *Tartar-Han* sent his Vizier hither upon a like Errand, wherein he succeeded so ill, that the *Han* hath been deposed, the *Porte* being dissatisfied with the *Tartars* shewing so little Obedience and Submission to their Orders. The Captain-Pasha is gone out with the Fleet of Gallies, and some Ships into the *Archipelago*, to keep those Seas clear of the *Maltese*, and gather the usual Tributes from the Islands. The *Porte* having resolved to fortify *Bender*, situate near the Mouth of the River *Niester*, the Fortifications were traced out, and begun to be raised last Year. This Summer they carry on the Works very briskly, the Princes of *Wallachia* and *Moldavia* having been ordered thither with about 2 or 3000 Men each, to assist at them, and the latter being now actually there; but the former ransomed himself from that Service. The Place will not be finished 'till next Year at the soonest. The Soldiery making no Motion, nor any warlike Preparations being made, it is very evident the *Porte* entertains no Design of giving any disturbance to any of its Neighbours this Year. The Vizier's Thoughts are taken up with a more agreeable Subject, preparing himself for his Wedding with the late Sultan *Mustapha's* eldest Daughter, with which the Grand Signor, as is believed, will honour him in about three Months. About 50 *Turkish* Merchants lately entered into *Hungary*, by way of *Segedin*, where they paid Custom for their Goods, and received an Acquittance from the Commandant of the Place, being afterwards advanced as far as *Keskemet*, a large Village, or Bourg, between the said Place and *Buda*, they were there surpris'd by a Body of Imperial *Rascians*, and together with the Inhabitants all put to the Sword, except two or three, who made their Escape, and are arrived here to make their Complaints, pretending the whole Loss of their Merchandize to amount to 250,000 Dollars. The Vizier *Azem* having referred this Matter, and some other Disputes about the Confines of *Sclavonia*, to be treated with the Imperialists by *Ibrahim Pasha* of *Belgrade*, who is a

haughty

haughty turbulent Man, and retains a Resentment against the Imperialists, for an Affront that was put upon him, by searching his Boats upon the Frontiers, when he returned from his Embassy at *Vienna*; 'tis feared he will rather endeavour to embroil than compose Matters, having rendered himself already very troublesome, and almost insupportable to his Neighbours. I beg leave to recommend to your Lordship's Favour the Case of Mr. *John Woolley*, one of our Merchants at this Place, not presuming by a Repetition of the State and Particulars of it to encrease the Trouble, which will be given to you by his Attorney at *Venice*, who will humbly recur to your Excellency's Protection. It will be great Goodness in your Lordship, if you will be pleased to pardon that which you have already received from him, that is with all imaginable Respect, &c.

RO. SUTTON.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Turin, June 18. 1707.

I Send your Lordship the whole Proceeding concerning the Duke of *Savoy*, with the Answer H. R. H. has made, which shews that he does not insist on any thing but what the Emperor is obliged to by the Treaty. He will soon send Mons. *Mellerade* to *Vienna*, and he hopes Her Majesty will give Directions to Her Minister there, to concur with his Minister, and to use all Endeavours to procure him his just Demands. It is certain, that in many Particulars that Court does not act as if they would engage him in their Interest, and he is very sensible of the Jealousies they have of him and their Usage. On that Occasion he did once say to me, with a good deal of warmth, that were it not for the Obligation he had to the Queen and the Common Cause, he did not think himself under any to the Emperor, since he did not perform what was stipulated and agreed to. I cannot but do H. R. H. that justice, that it is not possible for any one to shew more Zeal, and to take greater Care, in all Particulars, to have the Project succeed than he does. He is intirely his own Minister, and sees every thing done himself. He has laid the whole Proceeding before us, and wherever any Difficulty has happened, he has always found Means to surmount it. By the last Resolutions from *England*, and by Count *Briançon's* Letter, Her Majesty does promise the Fleet shall have a sufficient quantity of Powder, to furnish, according to the Measures taken. The Directions from Admiral *Shovel* to Sir *John Norris* are, that as far as 1500 Barrels he can go, but not more; which falls short of what is necessary. The Duke of *Savoy* shewed us the State of all he had, and rather than any thing should be wanting on his part, he has given Directions that all that came lately from *Holland*, and is now with the Fleet, which is above 3000 Barrels, shall be employed in that Service. It is judged by him and Prince *Eugene*, that there will still want 1500 more, which may be bought at *Genoa*: but as we have no Directions or Orders, Sir *John Norris* is gone to the Admiral to see how it may be provided, and whether he may not have further Instructions. We imagine that there may have been some Powder coming by the late Convoy, and taken by the *Dunkirk* Squadron; tho' it is to be hoped, it is escaped, and may still arrive. I do not doubt but the Admiral will find out some way; and then, I think, all things are settled. By the end of this Month the Duke will take the Field. I think of staying here some few days longer, and then to go to *Venice*, where I shall be ready to obey your Lordship's further Commands. I have received your Lordship's of *May* the 9th, and I am sorry to hear by Mr. *Adison* that you have been indisposed. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

I remember that my Lord *Manchester* told me that he had been with the Duke of *Savoy*, when Prince *Eugene* made many Difficulties about the Expedition against *Toulon*, and the Duke of *Savoy* answered them all. When Prince *Eugene* was gone, H. R. H. asked my Lord *Manchester* what he thought now of Prince *Eugene*; his Excellency answered, that he was sorry to hear him make so many Difficulties. Then the Duke said, I will tell you, my

Lord, what I think of him, and all the *Germans*. I believe they have no great mind to take *Toulon*, and their whole Mind is set on *Italy*: but his Excellency attributed this to the warmth of that Prince, and believed Prince *Eugene* would do his best.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, July 1. 1707.

I Took leave of the Duke of *Savoy* and the rest of that Court on the 24th past, as your Lordship will see by the Recredential I have inclosed, and last Night I arrived here. There were three Posts wanting from *England*, *Holland*, and *Flanders*, when I left *Turin*; and we are apprehensive that those we sent have met with the same Fate, because the *French* are advanced towards *Ulm*, so that all the Passage that way is stopp'd. Sir *John Norris* was returned from the Fleet, and had been at *Genoa*, to facilitate the Embarkation of all things there. The Admiral had also taken care to get 1500 Barrels of Powder, tho' I understand he had no Orders. I take it for granted the Duke of *Savoy* would not have assured us the Queen was to furnish it, were it not so. Besides, it appears by the Project he shewed us, and Count *Briançon's* Letters are full of that matter. The Duke, after they had made a State of all the Powder, as also of what Salt-Petre he had, did readily agree that what he had in a Ship from *Holland*, which is above 3000 Barrels, the Admiral should take on board; and it is plain he could spare no more. I find that at present there is not that Quantity to be had at *Genoa*, but it will soon be supplied. The Merchants are also not very ready to give the Admiral Credit for the Money. Sir *John Norris* will fully inform your Lordship in all those Particulars. The Recruits of all the Troops in the Pay of the Allies are arrived, except the *Palatines*, so that there is a very great Army, nor do I find that the Duke of *Savoy* makes any Complaint for want of Forces. He told me he should have with him 26000 Foot effective, and 7000 Horse and Dragoons, which would make him superior to any Force the Enemy could bring against him, at least for a considerable time. There will be still 16000 Men left to defend *Piedmont*, and to act on the side of *Susa*, &c. All the Army was in motion, and I do not doubt but the Duke of *Savoy* and Prince *Eugene* are now there, and that they are on their March to *Nice*. If they should make any Stay, it will be for the Imbarkations at *Leghorn* and the several Ports, which have met with some delay for want of a little Sum, which the Agent of the Duke of *Savoy* at *Genoa* could not supply: but Sir *John Norris* was to acquaint the Duke with it that Morning I came away. The Duke of *Savoy* has on several Occasions expressed how ready he should be to do whatever the Queen desired, or thought proper, and that he relied entirely on her Protection: but he cannot mention the Court of *Vienna* with any Patience; and I am apt to think, that had not the Queen shewed him, by sending me to *Vienna*, that Her Majesty made his Interest and Concern Her own, we should have had a very ill account of this Expedition. I have not been wanting to shew to H. R. H. the entire Confidence Her Majesty has in him, that She would see the Treaty punctually executed, and that he might rely on it, that the Envoy of Her Majesty at *Vienna* would have Orders about this, in case he had not already; that I had sent him the whole Proceedings: in short, I did whatever I could imagine to be agreeable to him, that so this Expedition might go on with more Vigour. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, July 3. 1707.

I Have received the Letter which you did me the honour to write the 11th of last Month, and I saw in it with pleasure that your Excellency had found in a good Condition all the necessary Dispositions for the Expedition against

against *France*, from the side of *Italy*, whither I hope we shall soon hear that the Army is upon the March. As to that of *Naples*, we shall also soon see the Issue of it, whilst, by our last Advices, the Detachment under General *Daun* was but three Marches from the Frontiers; and whether this Expedition succeeds, or not, this Court seems resolved to send a Succour of some Thousands of Men to *Spain*; tho' we do still expect a positive Resolution of the Court upon it, to be able to concert the necessary things, as well for the Fleet, the Transports, and the Maintenance of the said Troops, as for the Operations in *Spain*. The only thing I fear is, that they will but half succeed at *Naples*, and that they will be obstinate for that Conquest, which would again break our Measures as to the said Succours; which, how moderate soever, could not but contribute much to support the Affairs in *Spain*, if it came in time, and enable them to wait for a greater Supply. I wish that my Apprehensions may be vain, as well on this Subject, as in regard to the Difficulty and the Dangers which I foresee, in the supporting the Expedition into *France*. I do not understand what has passed in *Spain*, but I see very well that there has been but little Harmony between the Chiefs; and that as to the General, it seems hitherto, that we have took wrong Measures every where. In the *Netherlands* both Armies seem too strong to hurt one another much. I hope that in the Empire Affairs will change very soon, whilst the Army of the Allies begins to increase every day, and that they will go with a Body of 15 or 16000 Men to attack the Lines of the Enemy on the other side of the *Rhine*; that General *Heister* and other Imperial Generals will be arrived there by this time; that they hope still that the Elector of *Hanover* will take upon him the chief Command; that the Marquis of *Bareith* will retire, and that the Enemies will be obliged to repass the *Rhine*. They will be in a Condition, by the Junction of the Troops of the Empire, not only to make head, but even to embarrass the *French* Army on that side. We are still in some Uncertainty about the Resentment which *Sweden* seems to threaten this Court with: As Count *Wratislaw* is to set out again towards the King of *Sweden*, to endeavour to give him all sort of Satisfaction; and whilst the Queen and their H. and M. do what they can to accommodate the little Differences betwixt the two Crowns, it is to be hoped, that our Apprehensions from that side will soon be at an end. Monsr. *Rechteren* will soon go back from hence into the Empire, where his Presence is thought necessary, to contribute to put every thing in order. My Lord *Peterborough* has shewn here all that has passed in *Spain* till he left it; one sees there many Intrigues, and Diversities of Opinions. The Events seem however to be for him, without my pretending to meddle with judging, and he will set out in a few days to find the Duke of *Marlborough* at the Army in the *Netherlands*. I am, &c.

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 24. 1707. O.S.

I Have the honour of two of your Lordship's Letters from *Turin* of the 8th and 15th of *June*, N.S. I believe you are very glad to have left *Vienna*, where there is so little Prospect of doing any Good; and that you are come to a Court, where, at least all in their power, is done for the Common Cause, and I hope with a fair Prospect of Success. I did by the last Post write to Mr. *Chetwynd* to let him know, that there was no Expedient H. R. H. could propose to the Queen, towards obtaining Satisfaction for him at the Court of *Vienna*, that She would not enter into. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, July 8. 1707.

I Have notified my Arrival to the Senate, and am preparing to make my Entry. I find it will not be so soon as I hoped for, tho' they have been here at work for me this great while. I cannot see that whatever they can do

do here, tho' they were ever so well inclined, can be of much Service, so that it requires no great Haste; I shall also have time enough to receive your further Directions. The last Letter I received from your Lordship was of the 9th of *May*, and I had one from Mr. *Addison* of the 13th, both which make me fear that my Letters of the 8th and 15th of *May* from *Turin* are stopp'd, having sent them by the way of *Bern*.

The Letters from *Rome* of the 2d say, that the Imperialists were within seven Miles of *Naples*: That *Capua* had opened its Gates: That there appeared no sort of Opposition, but that all received them with great Joy, and that the whole Kingdom would declare for King *Charles*. It is thought that the Viceroy will retire with his Effects into *Gaëta*, having made that Place as strong as he could. There are several Men of War seen on that Coast, which they take to be *English*, which I think cannot be true; but I know there are several *Dutch* Privateers of great Force in the *Mediterranean*, which may be those Ships.

This Republick, upon the News, does not think that the Opposition we and *Holland*, and also the Duke of *Savoy*, made against that Expedition, was sincere; but that it was only to amuse *France*. I find they are here very uneasy, and do not know what to do; for it is certain they are entirely encompassed by the *Germans*, who have *Mantua*, and who by *Naples* will command the Gulph. Four *Turkish* Men of War and three of *Tunis* have landed on the side of *Calabria* in the Kingdom of *Naples*, and have done great mischief, carrying away 300 People for Slaves. They have also carried Cannon to *Valona*, and are fortifying it on the side of the Gulph, which puts them here under Apprehensions, tho' as yet they do not meddle with the *Venetian* Ships.

The Letters from *Turin* are just come, and I have inclosed one from Mr. *Chetwynd* and Sir *John Norris*, by which your Lordship will have a better account than I can send. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

His Excellency wrote the same night to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and to my Lord High-Treasurer *Godolphin*: but as those Letters only repeat what is contained in the two last Letters to the Earl of *Sunderland*, I shall mention only what he wrote to my Lord *Godolphin*, about the Person of the Duke of *Savoy*, which was as follows: "There is nothing done, even in the most inconsiderable Matters, but what he directs; no Application being made by the Foreign Ministers but to himself, and he has no sort of Council about him: which is very different from other Princes. He is easy of access, and I have been Hours with him; so that it is impossible to know what is doing, unless you can judge by his Discourse, or that he will tell it you. He seemed to be very open and free to declare his Thoughts to me. He told me, that the Pope had made a Proposition of resigning the Kingdom of *Naples* as in Trust. I find he thinks there is some private View in the Expedition thither, and more than the Service of King *Charles*, and the Common Cause; and that it is certain that the Court of *Vienna* has its Thoughts on *Italy*, and it is to be feared that the next Expedition will be against the Malecontents in *Hungary*, &c.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, July 15. 1707.

WE have now an Account of the Imperialists being received in the City of *Naples* on the 8th instant. The Viceroy did all he could to press the People to defend the Town, but he found none disposed to do it; so he embarked himself in a Galley, and he is gone, with all the Riches he has plundered, to *Gaëta*. It is believed that his Stay will be but short there, and that he will make for *Sicily*. The City of *Naples* sent four Deputies to treat with the General. It is yet uncertain what the Conditions granted are. It is said, that the two Castles have also agreed to surrender, if they are not relieved in two Months: but these things are not very material. I take it that that Kingdom is reduced, or it will be in a short time; so that now, if the Court of *Vienna* will assist towards the Recovery of *Spain*, it is in their power. They may raise what Horse they will, and also a number of

Foot.

Foot. Besides, it will be more agreeable to the People there, if they send away some *German* Troops. The Detachment was not of above 9000 Men, and such a March must have lessened them. The Duke of *Savoy* and Prince *Eugene* both assured me, that they were no more, tho' it was proper to give out that they were a greater Force. The Marquis *de los Balbasos*, who was going Viceroy to *Sicily*, was chased by some of our Ships into *Gaëta*. These Ships are since returned to *Leghorn*, and are going to join Admiral *Shovel*. We hear that *Monaco* has surrendered to the Prince of *Hesse*, and that the *French* were retired to *Villa-Franca*; so that the first Opposition, which the Duke of *Savoy* will meet with, will be at the passing of the River *Var*. The *Venetian* Ambassadors are arrived from *England*, and on Monday next they are to make their Report to the Senate. I suppose they have not much to say from thence, tho' they may from the *French* Army. I hear that Signor *Pisani*, after waiting on the Duke of *Marlborough*, went to the Elector of *Bavaria*. They are under great Apprehensions at *Rome*. Eight Gates of the City are shut up, the rest have continual Guards, and they bring into it all the Troops they can get together. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Pera of Constantinople, July 27. 1707.

I Did myself the honour to write on the 6th past by the Courier of the Republick, to acquaint your Excellency with what occurr'd at that time: since which, there has been a very dangerous Plot against the Government discovered. The Design was to depose the present Sultan, and set up Sultan *Ibrahim*, the Son of Sultan *Achmet*; in order to which, the Conspirators had concerted to rise in Arms on the 15th past, and assault the great Seraglio, while the Divan was holding. If they had once appeared in Arms, it is probable great Multitudes would have joined them, the People being generally much dissatisfied with the present Government. The Chiefs were not Men of great Consideration, or Credit; but they had engaged a great number of Janizaries and other inferior People. *Benkle Mustapha Pasha*, and a *Muderis* or Professor of the Law, who were designed for Vizier *Azem* and *Mufti*, have been beheaded, and Search is made after *Deve Ali*, formerly an Officer of good Interest among the Janizaries, and pitched upon by the Conspirators for Janizer-Aga. Between 2 and 300 more have been apprehended, and most of them put to death, the rest being condemned to a perpetual Prison; and in this manner the Government enjoys as great Quiet, and greater Security than if nothing had happened. The *French* Ambassador is remitting and sending in Specie near 200,000 Dollars to the *Hungarian* Malecontents, which is the greatest Supply that they have yet received at one time this way. But the War in *Hungary* turns the *French* so much to account, that when they find themselves the most straitned for want of Money at home, they make their Subsidies to the *Hungarians* the larger, to enable them to make a greater Diversion of the Emperor's Arms, or divert their Thoughts of Peace. We have Advice by way of *Persia* and *Mecca* of the Death of the famous *Aurenzebe*, Emperor of *Mogul*. I am, &c.

RO. SUTTON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at Frejus, July 19. 1707.

I Have had the Honour to pay my Duty to your Excellency, and on the 14th I sent Mr. *Cole* a Journal of what had been done till that day. Since then we have no Communication with *Piedmont*, sometimes we send by Water, sometimes with Convoys by Land, which being uncertain as to the time of their Departure, I am willing to lay hold of the first leisure Hour I have, to thank your Excellency for the Honour of your Letter of the 9th instant, and to tell you, at the same time, that we are now got within four Marches of *Toulon*. We came from *Canes* yesterday, which is so far off, that our Troops are not yet come up, for which reason we stay here to-day.

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The Heats have been, and are so excessive, that I fear we have lost above 200 Men; yesterday cost us above 50. We have as yet met with no other Enemy than the hot Weather; and the Advices we have of the Enemy differ so much, that we do not know what to make of them. I hope I shall be able to speak plainer in my next, which in all probability will be from before *Toulon*. Sir *George Byng* is off of this Place with 12 Men of War, in order to furnish us with what Provisions we want; but Sir *Cloudesly Shovel* with the rest of the Fleet is gone strait to the Isles of *Hieres*, where we believe he arrived last Night; so that now the Enemy can no longer be ignorant of our true Design. I have nothing to add, but that I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, July 22. 1707.

I Have very little to acquaint your Lordship with. The Castles of *Naples* have surrendered, and I have inclosed the Capitulation, which Count *Martinitz* agreed on with the People. I suppose there was very little difficulty to agree to any thing they desired at this Juncture. I am assured from *Rome*, that there is the same Disposition in *Sicily*. Count *Martinitz* would have preserved a fine Statue of the Duke of *Anjou*, but he could not prevent the People's breaking it. I understand by the Report of Mess. *Erizzo* and *Pizani* in the *Pregadi*, that they found things very much changed in *England*. That by reason of the Victory obtained against the Allies in *Spain*, there was no Possibility of insinuating any thing to *France* in relation to a Peace: besides, that they found no Disposition there, nor in *Holland*, towards it, which made them return sooner than otherwise they would have done. They have here often under their Consideration, what Measures they are to take for their Preservation, being entirely encompassed by the *Germans*. They have renewed several Pensions, which they used formerly to give, to have Troops, in case they should have occasion for them; I hear that with *Wolfembuttel*, *Coburg*, and one of the Princes of *Saxe* they have already settled them: they are generally but small. The only way to preserve themselves, if they had Resolution enough, is to come into the Grand Alliance. The Pope is raising what Men he can get. The Power of the Emperor is at present so great in *Italy*, that all the Powers there begin to fear him. We hear by an Express gone to *Vienna*, that the Duke of *Savoy* has passed the *Var*, without any Opposition, and was at *St. Laurence* on the 14th. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 22. 1707.

I Am to acknowledge the Favour of two of your Letters of the 18th of June N. S. from *Turin*, and of the 1st of July from *Venice*. I am glad to find you left every thing at *Turin* in so great a Readiness to begin their acting. I wish you had left the Duke of *Savoy* as well satisfied with the Court of *Vienna*: but that is an Affair, I fear, will not be set right very soon. However, the Queen will continue to do Her Part, towards procuring him his just Satisfaction. I shall not fail to send you the Draught of the Treaty of Commerce, as soon as I get it from Sir *Charles Hedges*, in whose hands it still is. The *Venetian* Ambassadors had their Audiences, and went away whilst I was sick; so that I had little or no Discourse with them. I hope the next Letters will bring us a very good Account from *Provence* and *Naples*. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, July 22. 1707.

I Am very sensible of the honour which your Excellency was pleased to do me, by your obliging Letter of the 26th of this Month, and I heard with

a great deal of pleasure your happy Arrival at *Venice*, where I wish you all sort of Satisfaction. H. R. H. my Master has great Reason to complain of the manner in which this Court treats him. They have however wrote to King *Charles* and to Prince *Eugene* about the granting an Equivalent for the *Vigevenasco*, and I do not doubt but with a little Patience, and the Continuation of the good Offices of H. B. M. according to the reiterated Orders which Sir *Philip Meadows* has received, we shall obtain our End. He will heartily second the Instances of Monf. *de Mellaredé*, who has been here eight days: but as to the *Ban* of the Empire against the Duke of *Mantua*, they will first see the King of *Sweden* out of the Heart of the Empire, for Reasons already known to your Excellency. We expect with impatience, in regard to this, the Effect of the Commission of Count *Wratislaw*, who will by this time be arrived in *Saxony* near the King of *Sweden*. The News of the Entry of the Imperialists into the Kingdom of *Naples*, and the Army of the Allies under the Command of H. R. H. into *Provence*, has very much rejoiced this Court. I am, &c.

The Count TARIN IMPERIALE,
Envoy from the Duke of Savoy.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berlin, July 26. 1707.

I Am sensible that your Lordship has had but little time to write since you came out of *England*, and wish you joy that you are at last settled in your Place of Residence. I am much obliged for the Honour of yours of the 8th, and wish I had as much News as Inclinations to entertain you with from hence: but all our Eyes and Thoughts are on the King of *Sweden*, who takes pleasure in keeping all Mankind in the dark, as to his Intentions. I need not trouble you with all the Demarches of the Imperial Court, which your Lordship is undoubtedly very well acquainted with; and that we expect to hear by this Post, whether Count *Wratislaw* will be admitted to Audience or no, for it is still a doubt. My Lord *Peterborough* is still at that Court, and, having no Commission, is very civilly received there. This Court keeps very well with that of *Sweden*, and, tho' they don't say it openly, seems to apprehend much so powerful a Neighbour, with whom they are working to make a new Alliance: but the Elector of *Hanover*, who is designed to be the third, is not fond of entering into that Alliance; and the Obstacles it will meet with from several will, I hope, defer it 'till another time more proper to meddle with that which is to be the Foundation of that Treaty.

The Affairs of the Imperial Army mend daily. I can't say it is so much by our Vigilance, as the Fault of our Adversaries, and the Diversion Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Savoy* are likely to make, which has hindered *Villars* from venturing to continue far from the *Rhine*, or undertaking any considerable Siege. We still hope the Elector of *Hanover* will put himself at the Head of the Army, tho' it were to be wished he would have been quicker in his Resolutions. I send Mr. *Cole* our Circular, so I shall add nothing more to-night than assuring you that I am, &c.

RABY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, July 29. 1707.

I Have received the honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 9th instant, which by some Accident did not come to my Hands 'till the last Post, otherwise I should have returned you my most hearty Thanks for the Favour. I am glad to find that your Excellency, after so much travelling from Court to Court, intends to repose yourself, and fix for some time at *Venice*; a Place, as I remember, that was not disagreeable to you, and will be very pleasing to me, since it will give me an Opportunity of paying my Duty to your Lordship, as often as I have any thing to acquaint you with, that will justify me in the Trouble I give you.

Count *Metternich*, the *Prussian* Ambassador, having sent an Express to me to *Bern*, to desire me to come hither as soon as possible; I left that Place of my Residence, and arrived here

here on the 22d in the Evening, where I have been received with all possible Marks of Respect by the Magistracy and People, who have an unspeakable Honour and Veneration for the Queen. On the 25th I presented Her Majesty's Letters to the Council of State, the Council of the City, and the Clergy, which I accompanied with a Memorial to each of them, recommending the King of *Prussia's* Pretensions to these Counties of *Neuchâtel* and *Valangin*. Before I left *Bern*, I gave a Memorial to that Canton upon the same Subject, pretty much the same in Substance with that which I delivered here, and which I find has had a good Effect upon the Minds of the People, both there and here. It is now under the Press, and if it be finished before the Post goes away, I will inclose one to your Lordship; if not, I must defer it to the next Post. The Tribunal that is to decide this great Law-suit consists of 12 Judges, that compose the States of the Country, and was to be opened yesterday; but there arising a Dispute between the Prince of *Conti* and the King of *Prussia's* Ambassador for the Precedence, it was adjourned to the 26th of the next Month, to give each of them time to write to their respective Courts, and receive Directions thereupon. The Prince of *Conti* pretends that my Lord *Portland*, during his Embassy in *France*, gave him the Hand in a third Place, and that the *Prussian* Ambassador ought not to dispute it with him; and the less, because the King of *France* does not yet own his Master for a Crowned Head. Now tho' my Lord *Portland* should have given the Hand to a Prince of the Blood in *France*, it does not follow, that an Ambassador of a Crowned Head should yield to him in another Country; however, I do not remember that our Ambassadors in *France* did ever give up that Point, and beg your Lordship would be pleased to tell me your Opinion of the matter. However that be, it is certain this Dispute for the Precedence is started only to gain time, and I believe will be dropp'd by either Party, that can be first assured of getting a Majority of the Judges to his Side, that is, 7 Votes out of the 12. I cannot give your Lordship a better Notion of this Contest, than by comparing it to an Election of Members of Parliament, where there are 13 Persons that stand, for we have so many Pretenders, as your Excellency will see by the inclosed List of them. The Judges have all taken a solemn Oath to receive no Presents or Benefits from any of the Pretenders, but it is like to be very ill kept, since they are all determin'd to make their Fortune upon this Occasion; and I can venture to assure your Lordship, that, in spite of Religion and Liberty, which are powerful Reasons to favour our side, if they were not back'd with Money, we should certainly lose our Cause. The Prince of *Conti* offers great Sums, but the King of *Prussia's* Purse being at least as good as his, we hope he will not get the better of us that way. The Judges supposing the Market will rise as the time of deciding the Question draws near, wait to hear the utmost Offers that will be made them by the several Pretenders before they will declare themselves, and content themselves with giving good Words, and general Assurances, promising impartial Justice when they shall have heard the Arguments on all sides. This being the Case, your Lordship will easily imagine no Judgment can yet be made of our Success. However, I hope we shall get the People on our side, which will keep the Judges in some awe, and frighten them from determining against us, contrary to the Bent and Inclination of the Generality of the People. In short, we hope the weighty Arguments of Religion and Liberty will turn the Scale in our favour, if we pay as much for Justice as our Competitors, which we are willing to do, but as yet we have no certainty. Yesterday all the Pretenders were admitted to put in their Claims, and then the Tribunal was adjourned (as I said before) to the 26th of the next Month, so that we shall have time enough to cabal and intrigue with the Judges before their next Meeting. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

From the Camp at *La Valette*,
near *Toulon*, Aug. 3. 1707.

THE Situation of our Affairs here is somewhat changed since my last, but not so much as I could wish, or indeed as I did expect. This is the 9th Day that our Army has been before *Toulon*, and all that we have done, has been to oblige the Enemies to quit us some small Posts, where we design to make our Batteries; but their Camp before the Town is in the same place where it was when we came, tho' most People will have it that they might easily have been forced away. I do not know, my Lord, what is the meaning of it, but things do not go as they ought to do. Of our Great Men, I only find H.R.H. hearty. I fear, if we do not make better haste, that we shall pass our Time but ill, since we are informed that the Enemies are gathering together from all parts to drive us from hence. I must leave my Brother to send Mr. *Cole* our News-Paper, to which I beg leave to refer your Excellency for our daily Occurrences. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *Meldert*, Aug. 4. 1707.

I Have the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 8th *July* from *Venice*, and am very much obliged to you for the Account you give me of what pass'd at the Court of *Turin* while you were there. The Succours to be sent to *Spain* depends, in a great measure, upon what the Duke of *Savoy* will be able to do in *Provence*. Here we flatter ourselves his Royal Highness has been before *Toulon* these ten Days. It is likely, before this comes to hand, your Excellency will know the Success of that Expedition. I had a Letter this Morning from Mr. *Robinson* of the 27th past, wherein he tells me Count *Wratislaw* arrived there the Day before, and that at his desire the *Dutch* Minister had a Conference the same Evening with Count *Piper*, which he was to report to the King, so that we are still to learn what may be the Issue: but four Regiments of *Swedish* Horse having actually taken Quarters in *Silesia*, gives but a melancholly Prospect. We have nothing new in these Parts. I am, with great Truth, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Aug. 5. 1707.

I Have endeavoured to know the Sentiments of this Republick, as also of the Ambassadors returned from *England*, and whether they are satisfied. This comes from one who I am sensible can tell; and I cannot but think he had Permission to speak, and that it is really their Thought. "Our Ambassadors came away from the Court of *England* very well satisfied with the Civilities they met with there, in relation to the Embassy, but very ill with that their Journey had not the Effect they went for. Their Commission was not to make Overtures for a Peace, as the Court suspected; but their positive Orders were to represent to her Majesty, the great Inconveniences which will happen by the Over-balance and Power of the House of *Austria*: but that the Court, having suspected that they came on another account, never gave them the least Opportunity to speak of that Affair, and so all passed in Compliments. The Maxim here is to continue in a Neutrality, happen what will; and tho' they have suffered from both sides, yet they think it their Interest, not to receive the Offer of any Engagement from either Side. The Inclination of this State is rather for the *Germans* than for the *French*; however, they would have them keep within their own Bounds. *Mantua* being in their possession, makes no small Impression here; and they hope my Lord *Manchester* has Orders to propose something to them, that may give them an opportunity of opening their Hearts to him, and that some

means may be found to prevent the Mischief that may happen. They believe that the *English* Court has no great reason to be satisfied with the *Germans*, who, they think, have broke their Words with them on several Occasions, &c." This is the Sense of the Words of the Report, as near as possible: but I cannot tell whether their Ambassador in *England* has made any new Proposition since they came away. They write from *Naples*, that great Honours are done to Count *Martinitz*. All the whole Kingdom is reduced, except *Gaëta*, which is besieged, and they were carrying Cannon from *Naples* thither; the *Spanish* Soldiers deserted, and had quitted several advantageous Posts, and it was thought *Gaëta* would soon surrender. All the Nobility is come in, and several Regiments are raising for the Emperor. They have also coined Money, on one side of which is the Head of King *Charles* the Third, and on the reverse the Imperial Eagle, with these Words, *Si Deus pro Nobis, quis contra Nos?* If God is for Us, who will be against Us? All Commerce with *France* is forbid. The Duke of *Mantua* has made great Applications, by several Persons, that his Resident might wait on me, and I have had some trouble to prevent it. I could not think it was proper in the least, as our Affairs stand. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To my Lord Treasurer, (GODOLPHIN.)

My Lord,

Venice, Aug. 5. 1707.

I Have so little worth troubling your Lordship with from hence, that it makes me forbear doing it often. Besides, I know that my Lord *Sunderland* lays before you what I write, and what passes here. I have taken the liberty to write to the Queen, which I hope your Lordship will pardon, and represent the Case rightly. It is on a Subject I mentioned before I left *England*, and in relation to the passing a Privy Seal for the Plate I had from the Crown as Ambassador, having now been three Embassys with the same Plate. Your Lordship did seem to think it reasonable; and if her Majesty finds you of that Opinion, I do not doubt but she will readily grant it. When I resigned my Place of Captain of the Yeomen of the Guards, not thinking it reasonable, nor honourable to keep two such Posts as I then had; the late King consented I should pass a Privy Seal: but his sudden Death, and my being always unwilling to press any thing farther than naturally it takes its course, prevented its being put in execution, as intended. I have now an opportunity of owing the Obligation to your Lordship; and I am so sensible of your generous and extremely obliging Behaviour to me, that whilst I live I shall always acknowledge it. I also return your Lordship thanks for your thinking on Mr. *Pocklington*. If one can answer for another, I think I can for him. I am making what haste I can to make my Entry, that so I may be more ready to obey Her Majesty's Orders, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 25. 1707. O. S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 8th and 15th *July*, N. S. from *Venice*. I am very glad the Expedition to *Naples* has succeeded. The Quickness of this Success will give a great Opportunity to the Court of *Vienna* of assisting the King of *Spain* with Troops from thence, if they please to make use of it. They have promised us they would; notwithstanding which, I can't but be apprehensive of them: I know their Inclinations always to be so much bent upon riding a new acquired Country with their *German* Garrisons. Our good Success at the *Var*, makes us very impatient for more Letters. If that great Affair succeeds, we may yet hope to have a better end of this Campaign than any that is past. I don't much wonder at the Uneasiness you say the Republick of *Venice* is under, for indeed they have a good

good deal of reason, being environed as they are on all sides by the *Germans*; but they may thank themselves for it, for they never shewed the least Inclination to enter into any Negotiation with the Allies, whilst they could be of any use; and in the present Situation of Affairs in *Italy*, it is pretty hard to know how to make them any way useful. This I have told their Ambassador here very plainly. As for their two Ambassadors *Erizzo* and *Pisani*, I hope they will report to the Senate that which is true, that they were extremely slighted here, as being looked upon to be entirely *Frenchmen*. I am always, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hanover, August 5. 1707.

ON *Sunday* last the Elector delivered the List of the Officers of his Court, who are to wait on H. E. H. upon the *Rhine*. That is to say, Count *Platz*, Baron *Kilmanseck* and Mr. *Einhausse*, Chambellans; Monf. *de Harenberg*, Grand Maréchal; Mr. *Benison*, *Slosh Hopman*, or Governour of the Castle; Mr. *de Groot*, Gentleman of the Chamber; Mr. *Schulenburg*, Gentleman of the Court; and Major-General *Hamerstein*. The Elector has not yet appointed the Day for his setting out, and it is believed every thing cannot be ready for his Departure before the latter end of this Month. The Life-Guards, who have had Orders a great while, will attend H. E. H. The Regiment of *Hodenberg* has left its Quarters, and is marching hitherwards to be reviewed, and to join the Regiment of *Clinkenstoom*, and they are both to march to the Army on the upper *Rhine*. The Princess Electoral, who has the Small-Pox, was very ill on *Sunday* last; but having taken a Remedy, the Small-Pox came out so favourable, that she has been ever since as well as can be expected. Baron *de Gortz*, President of H. E. H.'s Council, and who was sent by the Elector to the Army of the Empire, is not yet returned, but expected every day. We are informed that the *Swedes* have bought above a thousand Horses, at a Fair held here the beginning of this Week. Four Regiments of *Swedish* Horse have taken Quarters in *Silesia*.

I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your Arrival at *Venice*; and as Mr. *Howe* has thought fit to leave me here to take care of his Affairs during his absence, and keep up his Correspondence, I shall not fail to have the Honour to let your Excellency know what passes in these parts. I am, &c.

J. D'ALAIS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

From the Fleet before *Hieres*, July 27. 1707. O. S.

I Am confident I could not do your Lordship greater pleasure, than, if I could, to give you an account of a good appearance of Affairs here: but I must confess, I never was at more uncertainty than at this time. The Duke of *Savoy's* Army has now been about 12 Days before *Toulon*, and very little advance is made towards the attacking the Place; there are Batteries raised, but I doubt too far off to make a Breach in the Town-Walls. We have landed more than 60 Cannon for Battery, all of them Ships Guns, with 200 Rounds of Powder and Shot for each Gun; and we have landed all the Duke's Mortars, which are but eight, and I have sent to the Camp about 170 Seamen for Gunners; and as their Batteries are finished, I shall send them as many more as they desire, and have promised them what Number of Guns they please.

The Duke of *Savoy* has again asked me, if I would leave a strong Squadron in these Parts; and I have again assured him, that if he took *Toulon*, I would stay myself, if he desired it, and he is very well satisfied with my Promise. They continue daily to carry off the Guns we have landed to the Camp, and some of them are already in the Batteries. I hope God will give us Success, and that in the end I may have the Honour to give your Lordship the acceptable News of a happy Conclusion here. By our Letters from *Spain*, we have Accounts that the Enemies have raised the Siege of *Denia*, before which Place they lost at least 1500 Men, having been repulsed at several Assaults, and that they are very sickly, and great Desertion among them. Our Letters likewise

likewise say, that it is reported in *Spain*, that the Duke of *Osuna* has been defeated in *Portugal*, with the loss of 2000 Men. I take the liberty to send your Lordship my Lord *Galloway's* and Mr. *Stanhope's*, and the other Generals Letters for *England*, not knowing where else to recommend them. I hope your Lordship will excuse it, and believe me with great Truth, &c.

CLOUD. SHOVELL.

Your Lordship will give me leave to trouble you with my own Letter, which came with them.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, Aug. 9. 1707.

SINCE my last, nothing has passed in this Place worth your Excellency's Notice; we wait patiently till the 26th Instant, on which Day the Tribunal is to be opened. In the mean time, all the Pretenders are carrying on their Interests, and forming their Party as diligently and as privately as possible. No body can yet tell what the Success of our Pains will be; however, I may venture to say, we have, at least, as much reason to hope to carry the Prize, as any of our Competitors. I send your Lordship inclosed my Memorial upon this Occasion, tho' I do not know if you will think it worth the Postage, &c. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Aug. 12. 1707.

I Have received the Honour of your Lordship's of the 11th, and I am very glad you will send me the Draught of a Treaty of Commerce, otherwise I could not proceed in that Matter, in case I should find the Republick disposed; for I have no Instructions of that nature, but only Orders to propose a Treaty. I do remember Sir *Charles Hedges* did mention it to me, and I am surprized he did not leave it with your Lordship, for that I take to be the most material Point we can expect to gain here. It is certain, that our Trade to this Place meets with many Obstructions, and nothing can establish it but such a Treaty. The Letters from *Naples* of the 31st of *July*, say, that King *Charles* was proclaimed with great Demonstrations of Joy. The Cannon was not yet arrived before *Gaëta*, but as soon as it does, that Place must surrender, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Hanover, Aug. 15. 1707.

I Have received the Letter of the 18th of *July*, which your Excellency has honoured me with. I should have had a great deal of pleasure in corresponding with Y. E. if I had followed the Elector to the Army, whence I might have sent you things worth your Curiosity. But as I am not named to go there, I have asked leave to take a Journey during that time, about my domestick Affairs, so that it would be useless to write to me. H. E. H. will set out in 15 Days to command the Army on the *Upper Rhine*. That of the Enemy has repassed that River, and posted themselves behind their Lines of the *Lauter*, whence *Monf. de Villars* has detached for *Provence* 15 Battallions and 15 Squadrons, and all the Grenadiers of his Army. I hope that this Reinforcement won't come, till after the taking of *Toulon*. The Success of *Naples* has been as quick as complete; and I find the Affairs of the Allies in a good Condition, excepting the Umbrage which the King of *Sweden* continues to give. He remains still in *Saxony*, whence he has caused four Regiments of Horse to enter into *Silesia*; and by the manner in which they negotiate with Count *Wratislaw* at *Leipsig*, we cannot be sure of an Accommodation. I am, &c.

DE ROBETHON.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Aug. 28. 1707.

I Have the honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 22d and 29th of July, N. S. I am very glad to find things go on so prosperously with the Imperialists in *Naples*, tho' I can't help fearing we may yet find the want of those Troops, before the Affair of *Toulon* is over. I don't at all wonder the Republick of *Venice* are so uneasy at their being environ'd by the *Germans*, and I can't but think this would be a right time to see whether they will enter into any Measures with the Allies, provided the Allies will take some care of them. The Queen is so much of this opinion, that she has sent Orders to Sir *Philip Meadows*, to represent to the Court of *Vienna* the necessity there will be of strengthening the Army in *Provence*, in case we succeed at *Toulon*; and that there is no easier way of doing that, than by inducing the *Venetians* to enter into the Alliance, and to let us have some 10 or 12000 of their Troops; and that, in order to this, it is reasonable the Court of *Vienna* should so far be easy with the State of *Venice*, and the other Princes of *Italy*, as to consent to withdraw their Imperial Garrison from *Mantua*, and that it may be garrison'd, during the continuance of the War, by some of the 18000 Men that are paid by the Queen and the States, with this further Engagement, to which the Allies must be Guarantees, That whenever there is a Peace, it be given to some indifferent Prince, who can give no jealousy either to the Emperor or the States in *Italy*. This is a Proposal certainly very reasonable in it self, and, if accepted, will effectually keep the War in the Heart of *France*: but as this cannot be proposed in form to *Venice*, 'till we hear how it's approv'd of at *Vienna*; so on the other side the Queen thinks it would be right for your Lordship, as occasions may offer, to sift their Inclinations at *Venice*, that one may judge whether any such Proposal would find Ingression with them; which your Lordship may easily do, by knowing of them, in general, whether they are willing to enter into any Measures with the Queen and Allies, in order to ease themselves of the Difficulties they at present lie under; and if so, what they can propose to induce the Allies to take care of them? This is what I am ordered by Her Majesty to acquaint your Lordship with, and I hope our good success at *Toulon* will soon strengthen you in any Proposal of this kind. I hope to send you very soon the Project for the Treaty of Commerce; and I am with all Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neufchatel, Aug. 19. 1707.

SINCE my last, the *French* Ambassador has sent his Secretary hither with a threatening Memorial, about the Dispute for Precedence, between the King of *Prussia's* Ambassador, and the Prince of *Conti*; wherein he treats the first very rudely, who, it is supposed, will answer it in the same Terms. In the mean time, the Ambassador has received Orders from *Berlin*, not to yield the Precedence to the Prince; so that the Government here, finding each of them firm in maintaining his Pretensions to the Precedency, and unwilling to hearken to any Expedient, and being apprehensive that this Contest may occasion some Disorder at the opening the Tribunal on this day sevenight, has resolved, that none of the Pretenders shall personally appear there, but leave the Management of their Causes to their Advocates. All the Pretenders seem satisfied with this Regulation, except the Prince, who continues to declare he will come there in Person, in which case, Count *Metternich* must be present too. However, if the Prince will not recede, it's hoped the Government will have Courage enough to give Orders to refuse the Door to any Pretender that shall present himself. The reason why the Prince is so obstinate in this Point is, because he has a mind to put off the meeting of the Tribunal to a longer time, and hopes by this means to obtain his end; but Count *Metternich* having reason to believe the Dispositions of the People here, as well as of the publick Affairs, will be favourable to him, is desirous

the Tribunal should meet on the 26th, and seems resolved to do all that he can towards it. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Aug. 19. 1707.

I Send you the Proceedings of the Court of *Rome*, in relation to the Emperor and the Duke of *Savoy*. I could not tell but you might be desirous of seeing what was done there. It is plain, the Duke of *Savoy* is included in the Censure, and so is the Emperor; tho' as to the last, they would insinuate that they are far from believing he could give such Directions. The Assertion that the Dutchy of *Parma* is no Fief of the Empire, and that it belongs entirely to the Court of *Rome*, will, I should think, be a Point the Emperor will hardly give up. I cannot but believe this State has been in a great measure the occasion of this Proceeding, tho' they will take care not to appear in it; and whilst the King of *Sweden* acts as he does, it will keep up some spirit in favour of *France* in *Italy*. I was assured, that the *Venetian* Ambassador at *Vienna* had 12000 Pistoles returned him by one Merchant: whether this goes to Count *Piper*, Mr. *Robinson* will be best able to find out. I fear the *Germans* begin to make the most of the Kingdom of *Naples*. They laid a Duty on Fruit and Herbs, which so incensed the People at *Naples*, that there has been a Tumult, which might have had worse Consequence, but was prevented, by revoking it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A Journal sent to Mr. COLE, by Mr. CHETWYND.

Camp at La Valette, August 20. 1707.

The 14th. MY last to you was of this day; since when, I hear that some Deserters from *Toulon* bring word, that the Enemies have given out Powder and Ball to every Soldier, upon which Orders are now given to reinforce the Guard upon the left of our Line with three Battallions, the right having already a Reserve of four Battallions ordered for some Days before. 15. The Enemies, as the Deserters had reported, march'd all night to gain the Hill above our Camp upon our right, and that with so much Diligence and Secrecy, that they seized on our advanced Guards, and began their true Attack on our right by Break of Day, after having made their Signal for the Attack by firing three Guns, making at the same time a false Attack on our left. Our Troops on the right received the Enemies very well at first, but being over-powered by their Superiority, and the Situation of the Ground being such, that the Reserve could not immediately come up, they were obliged to give way, and retire into the other Posts on the right, which they did in very good Order, till the Prince of *Saxe Gotha*, who was General of the Day, was killed; and this, tho' they were exposed to the Fire of the Place, and of three Ships, which did not cease firing during the whole Action. The Enemies endeavoured to push their good Fortune farther; but after a Dispute of about two Hours, at a little Casine in the middle of our Communication they were obliged to stop, in the Post of *St. Catharine*, for fear the Troops which H. R. H. and Prince *Eugene*, who arrived a little after the Action was began, had ordered to march to the Top of the Hills, should cut off the Retreat to the Camp; which they had great reason to apprehend, since they could not but perceive our whole Army in Motion: which our Generals had ordered so, in view of a general Action, upon the News we had received the Day before, that the Enemies had above 60 Battallions in their Camp. But Things went no farther, and toward the Evening the Enemies abandoned all they had taken, after having set fire to our Batteries, and ruined all the Works we had made on the right. A Detachment of Horse we had in the Valley of *Ardennes*, on the right of our Camp, with a small Body of Foot, was attacked by the Enemies at the same time, but came off without any Loss; Colonel *Pheffercorn*, who commanded them, having been killed the Day before, as he went to reconnoitre the Enemy. We do not know the Loss of the Enemy in the Attacks of our Works on the right, but to judge by our own Loss, and the Resistance

Resistance our Troops made at first, methinks it cannot be less than 2000, or 1500 Men. We had between 5 and 600 Men killed, wounded or taken Prisoners. Besides the Prince of *Saxe Gotha*, we had a Lieutenant Colonel of the *Hessians*, a Major of the *Palatines*, with several Captains and Under-Officers killed, General *Efelt*, a *Palatine* Brigadier, with several Under-Officers wounded; a *Piemontese*, and a *Saxe Gotha* Colonel taken Prisoners with one or two Captains: Besides which, we lost two small Field-Pieces, which our Gunner had forgot to carry off from the Post of *St. Catharine*. At Night we began to bombard the Town with six Mortars, which immediately set fire in two Places: This Evening the Fort *St. Margerite*, the outermost Fort near to the Sea, surrender'd at Discretion. The Garrison was composed of a Lieutenant Colonel, and three other Officers, with 130 Soldiers. We found in the Place some Provisions, and 14 Pieces of Iron-Cannon, four of which were 48 Pounders. By the Reddition of this Castle, our Ships can come near to the Shore, and the Artillery, &c. which was landed at *Hieres*, may be re-embarked here with much more Ease, which was ordered to be done to-morrow, the Siege of *Toulon* not being practicable, because of the Reinforcements the Enemies have received since we are here, and by reason of the Works they have had time to make.

16. Our Batteries on the left continued to play against the Town and Ships, as also against Fort *Louis*, where the Breach is near made. Our Bombardiers flung several Bombs last Night, and all this Day, into the Town with very good Success; but no Ship has yet been touched, as we know of. We continue to embark our Artillery, &c. The Admiral commanded Ships to attack Fort *Louis*, but the Wind was so strong, that our Ships could do little Service. However they lay so near, that one of our Ships had 30 Men killed or wounded. This Day the Wind blew so hard, that the *Royal-Anne* lost one of her Masts, was drove from her Anchor, and ran foul upon a *Dutch* Man of War, who was somewhat damaged.

17. Drummers and Trumpeters were sent to and from *Toulon*, to inquire after several Officers and Soldiers, and the Enemies did desire to exchange their Prisoners made at *St. Margerite*, to which H. R. H. and Prince *Eugene* do consent.

18. The greatest part of the Artillery, which is not on Batteries, and almost all the Powder, Balls, &c. are re-embarked. Our Bombs destroy the Town of *Toulon* very much: but none have yet been flung into the Basin among the Ships. The Breach of Fort *St. Louis* is practicable, and Orders will be given to attack it to-night. All our Sick and Wounded are ordered to *Hieres*, where they are to be embarked to be carried to *Nice*, *Oneglia*, and *Final*.

19. Last Night we took the Fort *St. Louis*. The Enemies having abandoned it as our Grenadiers mounted the Breach. By the fall of this Place, I believe, our Bomb Vessels may come to bombard the Town and Ships, which is the only Hurt we can now pretend to do here.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *La Valette*, August 20. 1707.

I Have paid my Duty so seldom to your Excellency, that I am ashamed: but I hope you will be so good as to excuse me, for I do assure you I have not had the least moment to my self. Besides all things have been so managed with us, that I had not Spirit or Courage enough to write to you, knowing how much you had the good Success of our Designs at heart. Our Scene is not yet finished, for we are to steal away as we can, and as soon as we can. Now every Thing is in the greatest Confusion, and I fear will continue so till we are got on the other side of the *Var*. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Association before *Toulon*, August 25. 1707.

AFTER all the Hopes we had entertain'd of Success in our Enterprize on *Toulon*, the Enemy on the 25th Instant, made a vigorous Salley with a great Number of Troops, and attacked our Works, and took great part of them, and kept them all that Day, and destroyed what they had possession of,

and

and drew off four or five of our Cannon into the Town. The killed and wounded on our side is said to be about 1000, and among the slain is the Prince of *Saxe Gotha*, and since that Time it has not been thought proper to carry on the Siege; the Enemies, as our Army say, growing every day more numerous, and our Troops continually deserting; and the $\frac{6}{7}$ H. R. H. the Duke of *Savoy* sent to me to embarque the sick and wounded, and to take off the Cannon, Mortars, Ammunition, Provision, &c. in order to raise the Siege, which is now only a Cannonading and Bombardment, and we are getting every Thing aboard, H. R. H. having informed me, he designs to decamp with the Army to-morrow Morning. Before the Enemies had made this Salley, and destroy'd our Works, they were so frightened that they sunk twenty of their Ships, ten of them or more we reckon to be three Deck-Ships, and we believe some of them can never be recovered. The Duke has desired me to accompany him back with the Fleet, which I design to do as far as the *Var*. I ask your Lordship's Pardon and Favour to the inclosed Letters, with which I trouble your Lordship, because I know no other way to send them, and I am, &c. CLOUD. SHOVELL.

P. S. *August $\frac{1}{2}$ about Ten in the Morning.*

Our Sea-Bombs last Night fired very briskly, and, beyond my Expectation about Midnight set the Town on fire, which burnt very furiously all Night, and is not yet extinguished; and in the opinion of every body here, it is somewhat more than Dwelling-Houses that are on fire, we suppose Store-Houses. We cannot see the Town or Basin, by reason of a Hill between us. Our Army being decamped, they have brought Guns and Mortars against our Bomb-Vessels, and have obliged them to come off, being pretty much shattered by the Enemy's Shot.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, Aug. 20. 1707.

THE Honour of your Excellency's came safe to me. I find the Pope's Proceedings much wondered at; his Holiness was so noted for his great Caution, that it is surprizing to find him excommunicating at this Time, the Emperor and the Duke of *Savoy*, &c. You desire, my Lord, an Account of Count *Wratislaw's* Affair. Mr. *Robinson*, our Minister there, who with the *Dutch* Minister has been acting the part of a Mediator, and who were well satisfied to find the three Points so friendly adjusted, have had a fourth started and that of no less Consequence than Religion; the King of *Sweden* insisting now upon the Protestants being restored to the Use and Exercise of their Churches and Religion in *Silesia*, according to the *Westfalian* Treaty. On this the Mediators desired three Weeks Time, in which to consult their several Governments, and the King granted it: but before half that time was expired, his Majesty demanded of them to insist with the Emperor upon a direct and positive Assurance of it; which they declining, upon their not having received Answers to their Letters on that Subject, his Majesty thanked them for the Pains they had taken, but declined their farther Offices in plain Words. Thus stands that Matter, never appearing worse. Count *Wratislaw* continues still there, yet without having been admitted to an Audience of the King. The *French* strengthen themselves here in *Germany*, instead of detaching from their Army, notwithstanding some positive Reports we have had to the contrary. And I fear, as we are striving to stir up the Subjects of *France*, their Intention is to do the like with the Emperor's. What Effect that may have here, I can't yet tell, but I am not without my Apprehensions. If the *Swede* and *Villars* should act by Concert, one may say the Imperial Court would be in far greater Danger, than before the Battle of *Hogsted*. I am, &c. P. MEADOWS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, August 12. 1707. O. S.

MR. *Walpole* is lately arrived from Mr. *Stanhope*, and has brought with him the Treaty of Commerce concluded with the King of *Spain*. I believe

believe the Envoy will be here himself this Winter, his Presence being perhaps necessary in case a certain Earl should raise any Uneasinesses in the House of Lords. Our Merchants are very angry at their late Losses on the *Russia* Fleet, and pretend the Enemy must have had Advices of the Convoy's Orders to meet them in so critical a Juncture, but it seems the Orders were such as the Merchants themselves desired. Our Wagers on *Toulon* are sunk, but we still think the Odds are for us. The Duke of *Devonshire* is dangerously ill of a Retention of Urine, which will prove fatal unless very suddenly remedied. I am, &c.

J. ADDISON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Windsor, August 15. 1707. O. S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letter with the inclosed to the Queen, upon which I hope very soon to send you her Majesty's Answer. In the mean time, my Lord *Sunderland* being at *Althrope*, and Mr. Secretary *Harley* at *London*, I am commanded to acquaint your Lordship that the Duke of *Savoy* having now carried the War into *France*, it will be of the greatest importance to lose no time in endeavouring to support and reinforce the Army of the Allies under H. R. H's Command by the most speedy and effectual Measures that can possibly be taken; and in order to this, the Troops of the Republick of *Venice*, being the most numerous, as well as the most at hand, it is her Majesty's Pleasure that your Lordship should take the first Opportunity of proposing to the Republick to enter into the Grand Alliance, and to assist the Allies with 10,000 or 12,000 Men, to be commanded by a General of their own, but subject to the Orders and Directions of the Duke of *Savoy*, or the Commander in chief of the Allies in *Italy*. The Motives to them to enter into this Proposal, will be these:

1st, That the Allies will allow them Subsidies in proportion to the number of their Troops employed in their Service, upon the same foot with the 28,000 Men paid by the Allies, both last Year and this Year in *Italy*.

2dly, The Allies will assure them that no Peace shall be made without their notice and participation, nor without taking care of their Interests, and comprehending them in it, equally with the rest of the Allies.

Upon these Terms, or to this purpose, I persuade my self, that your Lordship may find a Disposition in the Republick to come into our Alliance, both because they are delivered from their usual Dread of the *French*, and because they stand in need of Friends that can protect and shelter them from the Insults of the Emperours. I am with all Respect, &c.

GODOLPHIN.

When the Earl of *Manchester* shewed me this Letter, wrote in the Lord's own hand, but in haste; I told him, that I was very sorry to see Orders of that great Moment sent in so loose a manner, and that by my Lord Treasurer, from whom he could receive no Orders, relating to his Negotiations as an Ambassador; those were to come from the Queen, or from Her Principal Secretaries of State only, as is plain by the Instructions he carried out; and as the Earl of *Sunderland* might have come up to Court in one day's time, and Mr. Secretary *Harley* in four Hours, and an Express might have got to *Venice* several days before the ordinary Post; and as such a considerable Negotiation could not be proposed without consulting first with the States General, &c. I did not like this whole Proceeding. This Instruction ought to have been sealed, signed at top and bottom by Her Majesty, and countersigned by a Secretary of State. In short, as His Excellency asked my Opinion, I told him, that I humbly advised to do nothing in it: but rather to get plainer and safer Instructions, by asking what he was to propose as to the *Venetian* Fleet? Whether he shall make use of the Name of the States-General, whether they will send a Minister of their own, or whether Her Majesty will give him leave to obey Instructions that shall come from the *Hague*?

The Reader will see by this Specimen what Regularity was observed, and how slightly things of so great a moment

were treated by the First Minister, and then he will not wonder that a Nation full of wise and brave Men succeeds generally so ill in foreign Negotiations. The Foreign Ministers are paid out of the Civil List, and therefore the Consideration of Oeconomy made the Minister reduce the number of them; and those he kept were very ill paid, especially when they disbursed Money for Expresses and for Intelligence; and such, often very important, and very necessary, Expences.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neufchatel, Aug. 26. 1707.

BY the last Post I received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 13th instant, and give you my most humble Thanks for the Information you are pleased to give me about our Dispute for Precedence here; to prevent the ill Consequences whereof, the three States met on the 24th, and resolved that none of the Pretenders should appear at the Tribunal in Person. The Prince of *Conti* alone refused to comply with that Regulation, when it was notified to him, and the next day presented a Memorial to them, to desire a Delay might be granted till he could send to Court, to receive the *French* King's Orders about this Incident, because the Prince said he was positively commanded to be present at the Tribunal; but yesterday his Request was absolutely refused: however, to-day, when the Tribunal met, he presented another Memorial to the same effect, which after an hour's private Debate among them, has produced an Adjournment to the 6th of the next Month; so that he has gain'd to-day of the Tribunal what was refused him yesterday by the States, tho' the same Persons compose both. They will not own indeed that this delay was granted at the Prince of *Conti*'s Request, but take for the Pretext of it the Impossibility of hearing the Claims of all the Pretenders in one day, and the time of the Preparation for the Sacrament coming on to-morrow, which causes a Suspension of Business for some days. Upon the whole, this Management seems to be a juggle for gaining time in favour of the Prince of *Conti*, since the Tribunal, that should have met at 7 in the Morning, was not assembled 'till Noon, to give them a Pretence for saying they had not time to-day to go through with the Business of it; however, in spite of this Delay, it seems to us almost impossible, that the Prince of *Conti* should carry his Point, and that their Compliance with him, in this particular, is rather to leave him without a Pretence for Complaint, than from any Opinion People have it will much advance his Cause. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Aug. 26. 1707.

I Do acknowledge your Lordship's of *July 25*. I do hear that the Court of *Vienna* has sent Orders to Count *Martinitz*, that whatever Troops the Duke of *Savoy* shall desire, either for *Spain* or *Provence*, he is to comply with it, whenever our Ships come for them: but I fear it will meet with Difficulties; for the *Anjou*-Party is very busy, and there is a Conspiracy discovered between the late Viceroy, who is at *Gaëta*, and Numbers of Persons of Consideration and Monks. The Person he sent to ask a Passport, was near *Gaëta* before he was taken with all his Letters. The Monks were immediately sent out of the Kingdom, and great Quantities of Plate, which were concealed in Nunneries, have been discovered. I have also seen by a Letter from *Rome*, that there are great Discontents, and that Count *Martinitz* is not liked in the least. It is certain, that they imagined that the Detachment was much greater, so that they are now incensed to have yielded that Kingdom up so easily. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, Aug. 27. 1707.

AS to what I have, relating to the King of *Sweden*; his Designs are not well understood here, for I think they would not comply in so extraordinary

ordinary a manner, as they do here, did they know he intended Mischief to the Allies, and yet by the afresh-started Points one is pretty much induced to suspect it. The *English* Minister, Mr. *Robinson*, writes me word, that he is very sorry he cannot yet advise me of any great Forwardness Count *Wratislaw's* Negotiation is in. They expect the Resolutions that are taken here. He adds, and for their Part, meaning himself and Mr. *Cranenberg* the *Dutch* Minister, they have yet no Information how Her Majesty and the States consider the Step they have made, in declining to meddle in so nice a Point as Religion, without express Orders. He hopes, he says, they have done for the best. I wish it may prove so. The Empress with the Arch-Dutcheffes and the Princess of *Wolfenbuttel* returned hither yesterday from their Pilgrimage. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, Aug. 27. 1707.

I Have received the Letter, which your Excellency wrote me the 13th instant. We languish to hear the success of the Siege of *Toulon*, from which much seems to depend; and the more, because there is no likelihood that we can come to any great Action in the *Netherlands*, tho' my Lord Duke does his best for it, and whilst it seems that the two Armies in the Empire will also separate without doing one another great Mischief, tho' they have cannonaded each other for some Days; and that they were on the 19th yet near one another, near *Dourlach* and *Kretzing*. I wish that our Army would not hazard itself, it being very necessary that the Elector of *Hanover* should put himself at the head of it, as we hope he will shortly do; tho' I do not see that he makes much haste. We shall know in a little while how we are with the King of *Sweden*, this Court having sent its last Resolutions on the 27th by an Express to Count *Wratislaw*, and the next day too with another Express to *England* and *Holland*; after having done and offer'd all that was any way possible, or reasonable, and even more, to content the Court of *Sweden*: but as it has always caused new Difficulties to start up hitherto, I fear very much that there is some secret Engagement with *France*, which a few days will clear up to us, by the Conclusion, or not Conclusion, of the Treaty; and by the Measures the King of *Sweden* will take, who will certainly play a high Game if he will do Mischief, tho' he could embarrass us very much in the Beginning. For the Affairs of *Hungary*, there is not the least hope, since the Malecontents have entirely renounced Subjection to the House of *Austria*, declaring at the same time an *Interregnum*; and they seem even to pretend, that the Mediators shall treat them henceforth, as a Nation entirely free. I believe that the Count *Rechteren* will set out this Autumn for *Germany*. Count *Zinzendorf* is extream ill of a Fever, having already received the extreme Unction. I am, &c.

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, August 18. 1707.

WE had Yesterday a *Lisbon* Mail, in which we received Letters from *Barcelona* of June the 9th. They all tax very much the *French* Generals, for not having made more use of their Victory at *Almanza*, which till the coming away of those Letters had been followed by very insignificant Success. This had given our Forces time to recover themselves, and to take all the necessary Precautions for the Defence of *Catalonia*, where the People appear'd firm to the *Austrian* Interest; and the more so, since they saw by the Treatment of the *Valentians* and *Arragonians*, what they were to expect in case of Conquest. The *Lisbon* Letters give us hopes of retaking *Moura* and *Serpa*, tho' we are afraid our four *English* Regiments may suffer much before them, not being season'd to the Heats of the Country, which are at present in their
greatest

greatest Strength. The Parliament of *Ireland* seems very much pleas'd with their new Lord Lieutenant. I am, &c. J. ADDISON.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, September 2. 1707.

WE have so many various Reports in relation to *Toulon*, that I am a little in pain lest we should not succeed, and that it should be the Fault of some private Directions, on account of preserving their Army, from a Court which you know has its Views too much on *Italy*. I found them very doubtful of this Expedition, as I found Prince *Eugene*, at *Milan*, where he made use of Arguments I had often heard in another place. I will still hope that these Suspicions, which are spread abroad, are groundless. The Day for my Entry is fixed for the 21st Instant, and then I shall see what this Republick will do. I fear they are too much *French* ever to be brought to break with them: they would be glad to be well with *England*; but their own way. They are here sending Troops into *Dalmatia* and the *Morea*, because the *Turks* are arming on that side. Count *Martinitz* is not satisfied, and talks of leaving *Naples*. The King of *Spain* has writ to General *Thaun*, but not to him; to avoid any Titles, whilst he hoped that King would have called him Viceroy. I find that in *Spain*, they are mostly disposed for the Cardinal *Grimani*, and the Emperor's sending the other, has not pleased. The Duke of *Mantoua* is in great hopes of making his Peace at the Court of *Vienna*. I have heard that he has offered, to the Ministers, 40,000 Pistoles. This Republick would be glad to help it forward. These means may very well retard the *Ban* of the Empire against him, and so prevent the Court of *Vienna*'s executing the Treaty with the Duke of *Savoy*. I must again request, that your Lordship will not forget to send me the Project of the Treaty of Commerce with this State. Prince *Ernest* of *Hanover* is soon expected here, to pass the Carnival. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berlin, September 6. 1707.

I Am sure I can't send your Lordship more agreeable News, in Answer to the Honour of your's of the 12th of *August*, than the Confirmation of the Departure of the King of *Sweden*, and his Agreement with the Emperor's being intirely concluded, which may facilitate your Excellency's Negotiation with the Republick, to bring them into the Grand Alliance, which will be a weightier Argument, than even letting their own Troops guard *Mantoua* till the Peace. I shall be glad to hear of your Success. The Visits of Ceremony I have made and received to-day, shorten my time so, that I must refer your Lordship to the Letter of News which my Secretary writes to Yours, tho' there is very little that deserves your Attention. I am, &c. RABY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neufchatel, Sept. 6. 1707.

THE Courier that the Prince of *Conti* sent to *Versailles* about the Order the Tribunal had made, forbidding the several Pretenders to appear there in Person, being returned with that Court's Approbation of the Expedient for avoiding the Dispute about Precedence, the Prince submitted to it, and this Morning the Tribunal met according to the last Adjournment; but did not enter upon the Claims of the several Competitors, because the Prince of *Conti*'s Lawyers open'd the Session, by challenging four of the 12 Judges, which occasioned long Debates, that took up the greatest part of that Day, and hindered them from doing any other Business. The Reason for challenging three of them was, because they were Judges when the Sentence was pass'd against the Prince of *Conti*, in 1694. and therefore, he said, could not be thought impartial: and he challeng'd the fourth, because his Son was in the King

King of *Prussia's* Service. One of the other three having likewise a Son-in-law in that King's Service, it was urged as an additional Reason, for challenging him. When the Lawyers had given their Reasons *pro* and *con*, the four Judges that were challenged withdrew, and the remaining eight, after a very short Debate, resolved that the having been a Judge, when the Sentence in 1694 was given, was no sufficient ground of Exception, so that they were legally qualified to judge in the present Case; and as to the personal Reasons of challenging, upon account of two of them that had Sons in the King of *Prussia's* Service, they would take them into Consideration to-morrow Morning, till which time they immediately afterwards adjourned. However, it is the common Opinion, that those Reasons will not be allowed of, any more than the other, and that the Prince of *Conti* will be entirely baffled in that Design, which was his chief remaining hopes, in so much that he talks already of going away in a Day or two. The Scene now begins to open, and by what yet appears, we have more reason to hope for Success than any of the Candidates, to speak modestly; if they proceed in the Business for six or seven Days together without Intermission, we shall see clearer into the matter, and be able to make a Judgment how this great Law-Suit will end. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, September 10. 1707.

I Received the Honour of your Excellency's of the third Instant this Forenoon, and had the Pleasure to find by your Postscript to it, that my constant Correspondence is rather agreeable than tedious to you. I wish I could have felicitated your Lordship on a happy Success at *Toulon*, but we cannot reasonably hope to make every Campaign flourishing. The Court here say, they never truly relished the designed Expedition to *Toulon*; that they came into it, rather at the Desire of the Queen, than following their own Sense and Judgment. I am sorry that the detached part of their Army is like to produce no more good, and it is sad to consider, that their Affairs in *Naples* go backwards. Count *Gallas* has been here a Week. He applies himself directly to the Emperor, I fear not too much to his Satisfaction. He talks of seeing *England* again before *Christmas*.

Two Days ago, the Ratification of the Treaty with the King of *Sweden* was dispatched away. I think it well, that Matter was finished before our Disappointment in *Provence* broke out. We have been pretty near being visited by the Malecontents, but care has been taken to prevent it. I fear the *French* will not stand a Battle in *Flanders*. They will look upon their Escape to be great, and will put as little as they can to hazard. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Salusse, September 11. 1707.

I Have now before me, and am to thank your Excellency for the Honour of your Letters of the 13th and 20th past, which I met with at *Nice* on my return hither, where H. R. H. arrived on the 6th Instant at Night, as your Excellency will perceive by the inclosed *Journal*; which I send you more to shew the Manner of our Retreat, than for any News it contains. All our Troops will be joined in the Camp at *Vigon* between the 14th and 16th Instant, when we shall see what our two Great Men design to do; till then, I believe H. R. H. will rest himself here. I can tell your Excellency, that H. R. H. is very desirous to besiege *Suze* or *Fenestrelles*, to have a Gate open to enter into *France* the next Campaign; and H. R. H. has promised to furnish Prince *Eugene* with Artillery, &c. to undertake either of these Sieges: but as for me, I am of opinion little will be done. There is not Harmony enough between our two Great Men, to hope for any good. I had the Honour to deliver your Excellency's Letter of the 20th past, to Sir *Cl. Shovell*, just as I left *Nice*. I believe the Admiral with the greatest part of the Fleet, is now got near to *Barcelona*,

in his way home ; he has left a small Squadron in these Seas, to transport any Troops which shall be ordered into *Spain*, and I believe we may expect a strong Squadron in these Seas towards *November*, to carry over the Princess of *Wolfenbuttle*, with whom King *Charles* has declared his Marriage. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neufchatel, September, 13. 1707.

I N my last I informed your Excellency of the Prince of *Conti's* having challenged 4 of the Judges of the Tribunal, and of his having miscarried in that Design, from which Moment he despair'd of any Success, and therefore went away the next Morning after his Lawyers had formally protested in his Name against all the Proceedings of this Tribunal, to save his Right. His Protest is founded upon the Four following Reasons : 1. Because the Tribunal would not suffer him to appear in Person, the better to support his Right. 2. Because the Representatives of the City are not allowed to follow their own Opinions, but are obliged to Vote as the Council of the City shall direct them. 3. Because there are Judges in the Tribunal that have already decided the Question against him in 1694, and consequently are Partial : and, 4. Because the Foreign Barons and Vassals are excluded from assisting at the Tribunal, contrary to the Ancient Practice. As soon as the Prince of *Conti's* Lawyer had read the Protest, he retired ; immediately upon which, the Attorney-General made a Counter-Protest in behalf of the Sovereignty, and the *Banneret* (a sort of Tribune of the People) made another in behalf of the City and the rest of the People : after which they adjourned to the 9th, when the Tribunal declared the Prince of *Conti's* Protest null and void, and excluded him from all Right of Pretension. Thus we have got rid of a powerful Rival, and are picking up as many Voices as we can out of his routed Party. He is violently piqu'd against Mr. *de Villeroy* and Mr. *de Matignon*, for refusing to join with him in obtaining his Relief (as they call it) declared He had much rather the King of *Prussia* should carry it, than either of them, and at parting recommended it to his Friends to join with us against them. All the Preliminaries being settled, the Tribunal acknowledged, and the Prince of *Conti* outed ; on the 10th the *Mise en Possession* (as they call it) was granted to the remaining Pretenders, who have been ever since taken up in producing the Deeds and Titles upon which they ground their several Pretensions ; which being very many and long, are like to take up the Tribunal five or six Days more before the Lawyers enter upon their Pleadings. As we proceed I shall give your Lordship an account of the Steps that are made in the Business from time to time. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To my Lord Treasurer, (GODOLPHIN.)

My Lord,

Venice, September 10. 1707.

I Have the honour of your Lordship's from *Windsor*, wherein you acquaint me with Her Majesty's Pleasure in relation to a Proposal to this Republick, which I shall now soon be in a Condition to obey, being to make my Entry next *Wednesday*, and to have my first Audience the Day after. The Method is so different here from other Courts, that I could propose nothing of consequence till this be over ; which made me make all the Dispatch I could. I do find they are here still so fond of a Neutrality, that I fear they will hardly be brought into the Grand Alliance upon any Terms, especially now the Army under the Duke of *Savoy* has not only left *Toulon*, but is retired into *Piedmont*, and that it seems all is over on that side, &c. These Considerations will make me impatient till I have some further Directions. I do perceive that your Lordship took it for granted that the Duke of *Savoy* would winter in *France* : but that being otherwise, makes me think it proper to defer a little longer the mentioning any thing to the Republick, relating to their furnishing a Number of Troops to the Allies, lest now there should be no occasion for them. Besides, they

they are here much apprehensive, that they will soon have a War with the *Turks*; so that, if they were disposed to do it, I know not whether they could. Several Regiments are already gone for *Dalmatia*, and more were intended, but stop'd by the way, on the *Germans* returning into the *Milaneſe*. I am assured that a *Turkiſh* Envoy went lately by here for *Paris*, of which this Senate has had Advice, and which does not lessen their Apprehension &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

This was thought the most proper Way to answer a Letter containing Instructions of such moment, and that without mentioning whether and how the *Dutch* had engaged, or any material Particular.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord

Venice, September 16. 1707.

I Understand by my Lord Treasurer that your Lordship is at *Althorp*. I have acknowledged his Letter by this Post, and as Affairs are extreamly changed here, by the return of Our Army into *Piemont*, so it will be necessary I should be informed whether the Design does still continue of reinforcing that Army, under H. R. H. or that I am to obtain, if possible, the Supply of such a Number of Troops from this State, and whatever else shall be judged proper for me to know. I must own, that I cannot think any thing can be done on this side, for we can never have such an Opportunity again, nor must we expect that the *Germans* will ever make great Magazines. Besides, the Passages over the Mountains are such, that all must be done by force of Money; which I fear was one Reason amongst others why they did not attack *Antibes*, and so winter in *France*, as I did imagine would have been done, tho' we had not succeeded at *Toulon*, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *Scalin*, September 16. 1707.

SINCE my last to your Excellency, which was of the 11th Instant from *Salusse*, I have received the Honour of what you was pleased to write me on the Third, by which I find the ill News of our Retreat from before *Toulon*, had already reach'd you. The Difficulties we met with at *Toulon*, were very great; but they were made much more so, by the Indolence and Ill-will of some of our Generals. If we had pushed upon our Arrival, there was a very great Probability of Success; but as Things went, it was almost impracticable to do any good three or four Days after our Arrival, and I do not know the Reasons why we did not then set to Bombarding the Town and Ships, instead of amusing our selves about what we were sure could do us no good. We are now marching towards *Suze* in order to attack that Place, and I believe we shall decamp in a day or two from hence. I cannot say what Probability there is of succeeding, till I see things nearer; but we have still a very fine Army, superior to any thing the Enemy can pretend to oppose us with. H. R. H. is very hearty, and has promised to let nothing be wanting. He has already 60 Pieces of Cannon ready at *Turin* to march on the first Orders. So soon as our Expedition in *Provence* was over, Sir *Cl. Shovel* and myself solicited H. R. H. and Prince *Eugene* to send a Body of Troops to the Relief of King *Charles*. We found a very good Disposition in both the Princes, but neither of them had any Orders; so the Admiral was forced to sail for *Barcelona* without carrying the King any Succour: but he has left a Squadron behind him, with Transports sufficient to carry 9 or 10000 Men, in case any Orders come for their Imbarkation between this and the Winter. It is believed the Body of *Palatines* which the Queen and the States-General have in this Country, with a small Body of Imperialists, may be sent. But of this there is as yet nothing certain. I am &c.

J. CHETWYND.

P. S.

P. S. I am just now come from Court, where H. R. H. was pleased to tell me, that it was agreed to attempt the Siege of *Suze*, and the Attack of *La Perouse*. That Prince *Eugene* designed to undertake the first with all his *German*s, the *Prussians*, and *Hessians*, in all 42 Battalions; and H. R. H. the latter, with his own Troops, the *Palatines*, and those that have been all Summer in *Piedmont*, in all 27 Battalions; which join'd, is still a noble Army. I hope now our two Great Men are parted, each will strive to out-do the other, and that the Publick will find their Account in it. I have just now received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 10th Instant, for which I thank You.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, September 16. 1707.

YESTERDAY I received the Honour of your Excellency's of the third Instant, and I am surpriz'd to find that my Letters to you lay so long upon the Road. Since my last, the Tribunal has met but once, which was to give Audience to a Deputy from the Catholick Cantons of *Solleure*, *Fribourg*, and *Lucerne*, who presented a Protest from these three Cantons against the Competence of their Tribunal and its Proceedings, because they have excluded the Vassals, Subjects of those Cantons, from assisting at it. As soon as their Protest was read, the Attorney-General made a Counter-Protest in behalf of the Prince and People; whereupon the Tribunal declared the Protest of the Cantons null and void, and ordered, that it should not be entered in their Register: As to the Deputy, they told him they would send an Answer to his Principals in due Time, which is putting him off to a Long Day. This Protest, which was procured by the *French* Ambassador, has produc'd no other Effect than that it has made the People here more zealous for us, and advanc'd our Affairs. At the same time the Canton of *Berne* communicated to the three States a Letter they had received from the King of *Sweden*, recommending the King of *Prussia's* Pretensions to their Care; which is like to produce a good Effect, and put a stop to the Threats of the *French* King, who dares not make any Step that may displease the King of *Sweden*. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, September 24. 1707.

I Received by the last Post the Honour of your Letter of the 10th Instant. Your Excellency will remember, that here they always looked on the Expedition of *Toulon* as very difficult, and on the Success as doubtful. If the Detachment of *Visconti* had been reinforced by the Troops which the Emperor sent to *Naples*, they would perhaps have made so great a Diversion in the *Dauphiné*, that we might have succeeded at *Toulon*. But as none cares to talk of it at present, those Reproaches would but sour the Minds, and it is better to say nothing. The Prince of *Salm*s quits all his Employments at Court, and we shall soon see a great Change in the Ministry. The Prince *Hercolani* set out on the 21st of this Month for *Venice*. The Emperor supports him, and has forbid the *Venetian* Ambassador *Delfino* any Communication with the Court and the Ministers, till the Prince *Hercolani* shall be re-established at *Venice*; wherefore I beg your Excellency to let me know how he will be received. Count *Rechteren* is fal'n ill here, when he was on his departure for the Army of the Empire. Your Excellency will know already that all Disputes with the King of *Sweden* are adjusted, and the 20th of this Month the whole *Swedish* Army, consisting of thirty thousand Men, was ready to pass the *Oder*, and enter into *Poland*. I am, &c.

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

To Mr. COLE.

S I R,

Whitehall, September 16, 1707.

MR Stepney died yesterday at *Chelsea*, and will be buried in *Westminster Abbey*. I need not tell you how much he is lamented by every body here. He has left Mr. *Prior* a Legacy of 50 Pounds, to my Lord *Halifax* a Golden Cup and a hundred Tomes of his Library: the rest of it is to go to Mr. *Lewis*, and a Silver Ewer and Basin to Mr. *Cardonnel*. His Estate is divided between his two Sisters. The best Part of it lies in the Treasury, which owes him seven thousand Pounds. The Observer is dead. I am, &c.

J. ADDISON.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, September 30. 1707.

I Must beg your Lordship's pardon for not writing by the last Post. I could not then send you the Answer of the Senate to what I had said at my Audience, both which I have now inclosed. They are now very busy here in changing the whole Government, and a new Set of Men comes in on the first of next Month. As soon as that is over, I shall go to the College, and then declare further what I am directed. I shall soon see whether there is any thing to be done here more than Compliments, and I hope to hear by the next Post whether there is any Alteration, by the Change of Affairs, in those Directions I received from Her Majesty by my Lord Treasurer. The *Venetian* Troops are upon so ill a foot, that I believe they will not be desired by any of the Allies. I had some discourse with the Duke of *Savoy* on that Subject; who I found was not in the least inclined to have any thing to do with them. Besides, there are Jealousies between him and this State, which is too much the Misfortune of all in these Parts. The Pope is reducing his Troops, and there is no sort of Treaty between him, this State, and the Duke of *Tuscany*, as was once imagin'd. It is believed that the *Venetian* Ambassador will be soon here, that Matter not being accommodated. The *French* have taken a *Venetian* Ship, and carried her into *Messina* under *Turkish* Colours. This State is like to be under great Difficulties in relation to the Queen of *Spain*, who must pass through their Country. It is not yet resolved what they shall do. I am a little out of order, but hope it will not last long. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech made in the COLLEGE at his first Publick Audience on the 22d of September 1707.

Most Serene Prince,

IT has been with great Impatience that I have desired to execute the Orders of the Queen my Sovereign, by assuring your Serenity of the great Esteem and Friendship Her Majesty has for this most Serene State, and how desirous she would be to promote such Measures that might strengthen and confirm it to all Ages. It is certain we are without a Precedent or an Example that this good Understanding has met with the least Interruption, which shows Nature design'd it, and the mutual Advantage of each other intended it; so we are wanting to our selves, should we not embrace all Opportunities to make it more effectual and useful. When I consider and reflect on the Wisdom, Conduct, and the great Actions of this State, which Histories are full of, and that the enumerating them would be endless, and the giving them its due Lustre would be a Point too difficult for me to undertake, I am silent, and forbear enlarging more on this Subject. I shall only say, whenever this Republick will exert it self, she will find none of these great Qualities wanting, but that it is in her power to follow the Glorious Steps of her Ancestors, and even to out-do them. As to my own Particular, I have had already the Honour to represent in this Place one of the Greatest Crown'd Heads, whose whole study was employed in securing the Liberties of *Europe* and whose Life ended with laying the Basis for its Preservation. I have now the Honour (and with great Justice it may be

said) to represent the greatest Monarch that ever sat on the *British* Throne. It is her Friendship, most Serene Prince, which I assure your Serenity of, and it is my Happiness to be so well known to this State, as to be believed, when I say, I shall not only do my utmost to preserve and promote this good Understanding, but I shall also contribute all that lies in my power, for the Prosperity and Welfare of this most serene Republick.

The SENATE's Answer to the foregoing Speech, spoke by the DOGE in the College, on the 26th of September 1707.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE sending your Lordship as Ambassador Extraordinary to our Republick, as a Token of the uninterrupted and partial Disposition always shewn by Her Majesty the Queen of *Great Britain*, has been very grateful to the Senate; and the courteous Sentiments in which you have expressed yourself in her Name, are regarded by us with singular Esteem and Acknowledgment. They are able to confirm in our Minds the ancient Maxims of the most affectionate Regards towards the *British* Crown, and of the most sincere Correspondence which we shall on all occasions study to cultivate with Her Royal Person: who having by her own and singular Prudence, and her well disciplined and powerful Forces, put herself in a State of the highest Glory, studies also to eternize her Name by the laudable Intentions which she entertains to promote the greatest Good and Advantage to the common Cause. We desire that such sort of Expressions may be by you reported to Her Majesty, to assure her of the manner in which we have received the Representations of her Affection and Good-will, which she has been pleased to assure us of yet more by your means: Your Lordship may further be firmly persuaded, that the singular Qualities which adorn your worthy Person, being known to us; and remembering the Wisdom and Prudence with which you behaved yourself in your former Embassy, and which has justly procured you our perfect Consideration and Affection, we shall be always glad to see you, and to re-assure you of the Esteem with which we regard your conspicuous representative Character.

To Mr. COLE.

S I R,

Camp at Helchin, Octob. 2. 1707.

I Am obliged to you for the favour of all your Letters, which give us the best Insight into the Affairs of your Parts. It looks as if the *Germans* were resolved to ruin the Kingdom of *Naples*, as they have done the Electorate of *Bavaria*: but in all likelihood they may repent it, when 'tis too late. It is a miserable Council governs that Court of *Vienna*. In the mean time, we are the Sufferers; for instead of assisting the King of *Spain*, as the Revenues of *Milan* and *Naples* ought certainly to do, they don't stick to say 'tis none of their Concern, and that we must carry on the War in *Spain* for our own Interest. God preserve us hereafter from such Allies. The necessary Orders are dispatched for embarking the *Palatine* Troops in the Queen and States Pay in *Italy*, for *Catalonia*; and we hope they will be recruited out of those in the Emperor's Service. He offers to join two thousand Foot, and a thousand Horse to them, on condition we pay them; which is very unjust, and I hope will never be agreed to. My Lord Duke sets out on *Tuesday* for the *Hague*, where he designs to stay but two Days at most, and soon after his Return to the Army, he will go to wait on the Elector of *Hanover* at *Frankfort* or *Mayence*, to take measures with H. E. H. for the Operations of the next Campaign, which I hope may be more successful than this has been. I am, &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Sept. 23. 1707. O.S.

I Have the favour of your Lordship's of the 9th and 16th Instant, N. S. I am very sensible there is but very little hopes, if any, of engaging the *Venetians* to declare against *France*, especially considering how unreasonable the *Germans* always are, when they have the Superiority; however, it is worth trying: for notwithstanding our Disappointment at *Toulon*, we must go on with the same Views of reinforcing our Army in *Italy*, as much as possible, and there is no way of doing it so easy as that of getting a Body of the *Venetian* Troops; your Lordship will therefore continue to do all in your power to engage them. I believe my Lord-Treasurer will write to your Lordship to the same Effect. I am sorry to find our Revolution at *Naples* is not like to continue so quiet as one would wish; but I wonder at nothing under a *German* Administration. I am with great Truth and Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Octob. 7. 1707.

THE last Post I sent your Lordship what had passed at my publick Audience, as also the Answer of the Senate. I have since been at the College, where I have proposed their entering into such Alliances as will restore the Balance of Power in *Europe*; and which has been the only View the Queen has had in engaging in this present War. I have also proposed a Treaty of Commerce. As soon as I have their Answer, I will send them both. If they intend to do nothing, it will put them under some Difficulties how to word it: though they have a way of doing it very dexterously. It is a general saying, that the chief Difficulty a Minister meets with here, is to understand what they mean. I am told, that they have made Propositions both in *England* and at *Vienna*, which are not in the least approved of by the latter. It would be of service to me to know if any Propositions have actually been made by *Monf. Cornaro*. I intend soon to obey the Orders I have received from my Lord-Treasurer, which must bring them to some positive Declaration. The Prince *Hercolani*, the Emperor's Ambassador, is returned, and the Imperial Court does support him, and has forbid the *Venetian* Ambassador there the treating of any Affairs, 'till the Republick has given him full Satisfaction, which they have began to do, by releasing two Persons, which they had put in Prison, though they were under his Protection. The Differences between this State and the Pope are adjusted, though they let the Ambassador leave *Rome*; and he was on his Journey hither before the Pope sent to him, and gave him full satisfaction in relation to that Dispute. I hear the Constable *Colonna* is not to be present at the Chapel. They did here shew a good deal of Resolution, having ordered all their Subjects not to pay their Dues to the Sec of *Rome*, 'till further Orders. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, Octob. 4. 1707.

SINCE my last to your Excellency, our Affairs are much changed here for the better. The *French* Pretenders finding the Superiority of the King of *Prussia's* Party, threatned some days ago to protest and go away; and I am very glad I can now acquaint your Lordship they have been as good as their Word. They have tried all Ways, Threats, Promises, and Bribes to gain a Majority, or at least an Equality of the Judges on their side, especially *Mr. de Matignon*, who had the strongest Party among them: but not being able to seduce any of the King of *Prussia's* Friends by the most excessive Offers, nor to engage the *French* Court to espouse their Interest, so far as to write one threatning Letter since the P. of *Conti's* Departure; they despaired of Success, and therefore chose rather to protest and go away than wait the Decision of the Affair, and be condemned by a formal Sentence, which

which they think would bar them from reviving their Pretensions in a more favourable Conjunction. Accordingly, on the first Instant, Mr. *de Villeroy*, and Mr. *de Matignon*, made a formal Protest (to which Madame *de Soissons* adhered) against the Proceedings of the Tribunal, declaring them null and void, as your Lordship will see more particularly by the Copy of it here enclosed. As soon as they had read their Protest, the Attorney-General in behalf of the future Prince, and the *Banneret* in behalf the People, made their Counter-Protests, and the Judges appointed the Protest to be taken into Consideration on the fifth Instant; when we suppose it will be annulled by a formal Sentence. But the *French* would not stay to see that Ceremony performed; for Mr. *de Villeroy* went away yesterday, Mr. *de Matignon* this Morning, and Madame *de Soissons* is to go two days hence. As for the Tribunal, when they have annulled this Protest by a Sentence to-morrow, they will adjourn to the 17th Instant, to give time to the Secretary to draw up the whole Proceeding, which is to be laid before them. Thus we have routed all our Adversaries that had any Credit or Power to hurt us. As for the Prince of *Carignan*, the Pr. of *Montbelliard*, the Marquis *d'Allegre*, and the Marquis *de Mailly*, whose Agents are still here, they have no Party at all; and it is thought will protest and go away as the others have done, before the Day of the next Meeting comes: so that, in all human Probability, the King of *Prussia* will be declared Prince of *Neufchatel* before the end of this Month. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Turin, Octob. 8. 1707.

I Have not had the honour to write to your Excellency since I left *Pignerol*, but I did desire Mr. *Mackenzey* to assure your Excellency of my most humble Service in his Letter to Mr. *Cole*. I must now beg leave to rejoice with your Excellency at your having got the Fatigue of your publick Entry over; which I find, by Mr. *Cole's* Letter of the first Instant, was performed with great Splendour, and all due Honour to your Person, as well as Character. Your Excellency will perceive by the enclosed News that *Suze* is now in our possession, and that Prince *Eugene* is with us: H. R. H. sent for him to concert the proper Measures for the keeping of *Suze*, and try if it be not possible to take our Winter-Quarters in *Savoy*, and upon the Frontiers of *Dauphiné*. H. R. H. took notice of it to me yesterday, and your Excellency may be sure I forgot nothing to keep him in that good Design, which would be very advantageous to the common Cause, since it is probable it would oblige the Enemies to keep a great Body of Troops together all Winter, at a great Expence in their own Country, and perhaps frustrate their ill Designs against *Spain*; on the other hand, it would bring great ease to the State of *Milan* and *Piedmont*, as also give us a great Facility to enter early in the Spring farther into their Country. Notwithstanding all these Advantages, there are so many different Interests among us, and every body is so desirous to lie idle in his Winter-Quarters, that I question whether it will take; it is so good a Work, that I am resolved to forward it all I can. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

Extract of a Paper inclosed in the foregoing Letter.

ON the fourth, by Break of Day, H. R. H. received a Courier from *Suze*, with News that the said Fort had surrender'd on Monday in the Evening; the Garrison, which consisted of about 300 Soldiers, and about 30 Officers, being made Prisoners at discretion. Pr. *Eugene* left the Officers their Equipage. The Regiment of *Bonifani*, which makes about 1200 Men, is on its March to *Final*, in order to embark there for *Spain*. On the 6th in Evening, the Prince of *Anhalt* arrived here from *Suze*, and soon after the Garrison of that place. Yesterday Pr. *Eugene*, with his two Nephews, the Princes *Emanuel* and *Maurice*, arrived here from *Suze*. The Marquis *de Carail*,

Carail, Governor of this Place, presented the Governor of *Suze* yesterday Morning to H. R. H. and the Dutchess, who received him very graciously, upon account of his civil Usage to all the Duke's Subjects, who traded betwixt this and *Savoy*.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, October 14. 1707.

I Have not yet the Answer of the Senate to the Propositions I made for the entring into the Alliance, as also for a Treaty of Commerce. I understand it has occasioned very great Debates, and they are much divided. Some are for returning Answer, that they had explained themselves already in those Points by their Ambassador in *Britain*; that the Queen could not blame them if they did not alter the Measures which they have hitherto taken during this War; and this was to be the Answer, with a great many Compliments. Others, which, as I am informed, are the most considerable Men, are for entring on a Treaty, and hearing the Proposals which I shall make them, as also for appointing some of their Body to transact this matter, and to see whether it could not be adjusted, so that the Republick might find their Interest and Advantage in it. I suppose this will be laid tomorrow before the Senate. That has made me defer making those Proposals which I received from my Lord-Treasurer: for in case they are resolved to do nothing, I do not know whether it is proper such Advances should be made them; especially now the Affairs are changed in these Parts, so that there is not at present that occasion for their Troops, were they willing. I have not heard from your Lordship in a great while; so that I am under some difficulty how to proceed; and if by their Answer I see any Appearance that they are disposed to alter their Measures, I will let them know all as far as I am directed: nor can I make any step in relation of the Treaty of Commerce, 'till I have Instructions, or do know what we desire; for Merchants here may have different Views and Interests, which can be no Rule for me. They write from *Naples*, that on the 30th of last Month, General *Thaun* took *Gaëta* by storm; that the late Viceroy, the Duke of *Escalona*, with the Governor, and some other Persons of Quality, were made Prisoners, and are in the Castle of *Naples*. Prince *Ernest* of *Hanover* is here, and I have been to wait on him. I find he is desirous to converse with the *Venetians*, so that I shall see him but seldom. I am of opinion, that his Stay will not be long; for by the Methods he uses, he will find little Diversion. I have been again at the College, and represented to them the Concerns of the King of *Prussia*. I do not send your Lordship these things till I have their Answer. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Turin, Octob. 15. 1707.

ON the ninth in the Morning there was a Council held by H. R. H. at the *Vineyard* of the Dutchess; at which, besides his R. H. there assisted P. *Eugene*, the P. of *Hesse Cassel*, the P. of *Anhalt*, General *Rhebinder*, with the Emperor's, *British*, *Spanish*, and *Dutch* Envoys, who all, when the Council was over, had the honour to dine with H. R. H. who had ordered a great Entertainment upon this occasion. The young Princess of *Carignan*, with the Princess *Louise*, had the honour to dine with the Dutchess Consort at another Table. On the 11th the hereditary P. of *Hesse Cassel* took Post from hence to go for *Cassel*, and thence for *Holland*. On the 13th Monf. *Zinzerling*, one of the King of *Spain's* Secretaries arrived here from *England*, by the way of *Holland*, with Letters from the States-General, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, to H. R. H. Prince *Eugene*, and the *British* and *Dutch* Ministers; as also from the Elector *Palatine*, and the D. of *Marlborough* to General *Rhebinder*, signifying the Queen's, and the States, with the Elector's Intentions, for the transporting of the *Palatine* Troops,

on her Majesty's and the States Establishment, hence into *Spain*: and accordingly necessary Measures are concerting for the speedy and effectual Execution of these Orders. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, Octob. 15. 1707.

I Had the honour of your Excellency's Letter of this day Fort-night, wherein you desire me to be more particular with relation to the *Venetian* Affairs. I proposed by order from *England*, that this Court should place a Garrison in *Mantua* of Troops in the *English* and *Dutch* Pay, and that Assurances might be given to the *Venetians* that *Mantua* should be left, at the concluding of a Peace, in hands no way dangerous to the *Venetians*, and that upon the Guaranty of those Conditions the *Venetians* might be disposed to furnish Troops. This was my Order and my Offer here, but not at all relished by the Ministers of the Court, but shewn to those, the *Savoy* Minister especially, who were not pleased with it; and tho' the Proposal was not relished, yet they have made an Affair of it with the *Venetian* Ambassador, treating it as an Affront, arguing Distrust and Disrespect, not to have made it directly to them. My Lord *Marlborough* will be on *Thursday* next at *Mentz*, to confer with the Elector of *Hanover*, Count *Wratislaw*, and others. This Day the Court left the *Favorita*, and to-morrow the Princess of *Wolfenbuttel* will be declared here the King of *Spain*'s Wife, but not treated as Queen yet. We have had much State-intriguing here. The Prince of *Salms*, whom some here desired to lay down, is like to continue our first Minister: for seeing the Cardinal *Lamberg* ready to take his place, he was less willing to yield it up, and the Cardinal is returned back to the Baths. They who expected to rule the roost, feared the Cardinal would be soon as powerful, by the Assistance of the Grand *Veneur* his Nephew, and more esteemed and beloved than the Prince; and therefore both Empresses, many Priests, and all sorts of means have been used to keep the Prince from laying down. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neufchatel, October 15. 1707.

I N my last, I inform'd your Lordship of the Arrival of *St. Colombe*, Monf. de *Puisfeulx*'s Secretary, since which he has presented a Memorial from his Master to the three States, wherein, (as you will see by the inclos'd Copy) after having tax'd them very freely with Injustice and Partiality in their Proceedings, he demands of them three Points; and unless they are granted, threatens them not only with an Interdiction of Commerce, but even with War it self. The three Points are, 1. That a Delay be granted sufficient to give the *French* Pretenders time to return hither, and pursue their Claims. 2. That the Pretenders Claims be judg'd separately by a particular Sentence for each, and not jointly by one single Sentence for all. And, 3. That they chuse one of the *French* for their Prince. This Memorial was read in the three States, but made no Impression upon our Friends among them; for after some Debate thereupon, it was carried by a Majority, that they could not change any thing in their former Sentences: However, Monsieur de *Puisfeulx* is not discourag'd by this Refusal; for he came hither in Person this Morning, in hopes his Presence and Threats may make them change their Resolution; so that we are like to be in a great Ferment here for some Days, if he stays. In the mean time, Count *Metternich* uses all possible means to encourage and fortify his Party in their Resolution against any Delay; and in order to it, we have agreed that the *Dutch* Minister and I shall present a joint Memorial, in answer to Monsieur de *Puisfeulx*, wherein we are to assure them of all necessary Protection and Succour, in case the *French* King should attack them for chusing the King of *Prussia* for their Prince. As far as Threats will go, it is certain the *French* Ambassador will not spare them, but it is as certain they make little or no Impression upon these People's Minds, as well from their Courage and Zeal, as from the little

Appearance

Appearance of their being put in execution. It were to be wish'd the *French* Court were not headed enough to commit any Acts of Hostility upon this Occasion in the Country; for in that case, I believe, we might improve them into an open War with *France*, and the Protestant Cantons, who will certainly support us in this Affair: but there is too much reason to believe *France* foresees too well the Consequences of pressing this Matter too far. Monsieur *de Chamillard*, who is Monsieur *de Matignon's* great Friend and Protector, has prevail'd with the *French* King to give leave to his Ambassador to threaten, and try what Effects it will have; but if that will not do, no body believes he will push his Resentment any further. I told your Lordship in my last, what Answer the Canton of *Bearne* had made to the Letter from the Council of State here, since which *Soleurre* has likewise sent theirs; but it is in such cold Terms, that the *French* Party expects no manner of Help from that Project. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, October 7. 1707. O.S.

THE Earl of *Sunderland* is now at *New-Market*, and will return with Her Majesty on *Friday* next. I have been with Sir *Charles Hedges*, to ask him for the Draught of a Treaty of Commerce with the Republick of *Venice*, but he does not remember, that ever he had any such in his hands. I have therefore sent to Mr. *Palmer* on the same Subject; who, with two or three other *Venetian* Merchants, brought me the Project of a Treaty, which they desired me to read to my Lord *Sunderland*, upon his Return from *New-Market*, in order to have it laid before the Queen and Cabinet, to be examin'd and transmitted to your Lordship, with proper Instructions. In the mean time, I am ordered to send a Copy of it to your Lordship, that you may please to consider it, and if you think fit, may have time to give your Opinion on any Part of it. Our Forces design'd for *Portugal* are ready to sail with the first fair Wind, &c. I am, &c.

J. ADDISON.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, October 21. 1707.

I send your Lordship the Discourse I made in the College on the 5th Instant, as also their Answer, which we endeavour in the Translation to keep near to their Words, which makes it not very good *English*: Besides, they have here a manner of expressing themselves always with a Multiplicity of Words, and as little intelligible as possible. I have since explained my self further, and I have executed the Orders I receive from my Lord Treasurer, which I have also inclosed. Your Lordship will find that at the same time I have made an Excuse for not making Proposals, in relation to Trade. I hope I shall soon have Instructions from your Lordship about that Matter, that I may see what can be done. I have not yet the Answer from the Senate, concerning the King of *Prussia*. If I could believe they had Courage and Resolution enough to declare against *France*, I should hope we might bring them into the Grand Alliance; but, besides a strong Party, out of Inclination for *France*, there are numbers, whose Maxims are for not engaging on either side, and for keeping well with all, in hopes something may happen at last which may turn, by those Measures, to their Advantage. It is certain there are others well intentioned, and who would not have the Republick lose this Opportunity, and who dare not act, lest they should offend the rest. This has been the Reason, why I have expressed my self in the manner your Lordship will find; and, in case they intend to do nothing, I am sensible they will make it a very great Merit with *France*. I shall now see, whether they will appoint some Person to treat with me; and if they do, for it is not usual, I shall begin to believe they have really a Desire to concur with the Queen. I know they have had very great Debates already, and this last Paper, which I have delivered, will occasion much greater: but it will bring this Matter to some Conclusion, which I suppose is what

what is desired in *England*. I am assured there is an Express arrived here from the *Venetian* Ambassador at *Vienna*, by which he acquaints this Republick, that the Emperor had ordered his chief Ministers to let him know the great Dissatisfaction he had against the Republick, for their having treated with the Queen of *Great-Britain*, without any Application first to him, in relation to the placing a Garrison of the Allies in *Mantua*, &c. and that the *English* Minister had declared, that the Queen did it at the Instance of this Government. They pretend here to be extremely surprized at this Proceeding, having given no such Orders to their Minister in *England*. I find they are the same Proposals, which your Lordship let me know would be sent to Sir *Philip Meadows*, and if they were approved of at that Court, I should then have Orders to propose them here; so that I do not believe, that Sir *Philip Meadows* has mentioned this Government, but that it proceeds from the Suspicion of that Court. In short, the *Venetian* Ambassador has represented here, that the Emperor is extremely dissatisfied; so that I am of opinion, Monsieur *Cornaro* will hear of it. This Accident has caused great Diffidence and Mistrust towards our Court. I know that this is fact, and you will perceive it by Monsieur *Cornaro*. The Agent of the Duke of *Savoy* has made some Steps here, towards the settling the Title of Royal Highness, as also the Treatment as a Crown'd Head. The Chimerical Title of *Cyprus*, which is claimed here also, will I believe be some Obstruction to that Affair, &c. This Republick is not satisfied with the Expedient of the Pope, and their Ambassador is on his way home, and will be here in a few days. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech made in the COLLEGE, on the 5th of October 1707.

Most Serene Prince,

THE Assurances your Serenity has given me, and the Inclination I find in this most serene Republick to contribute to our mutual Benefit and Advantage, encourage me to declare further the Disposition of the Queen my Sovereign; who has had no other View in engaging in this War, but to restore the Ballance of *Europe*, and whose Allies have been convinced how necessary and indispensable it was to come into such Measures, against a Power, which aimed at nothing less than an Universal Monarchy. What has been the Success, is visible; what will be, is not very difficult to foresee: I shall only say, that the same Power, and Force, which has appeared hitherto, on the part of the Allies, will not be lessened till that End is obtained. I should hope this most serene Republick will judge it reasonable to enter into those Measures, with the Queen my Sovereign; that so she may look upon the Safety and Welfare of this State, as equal with her own; whose Power to support what she engages in, is not I believe to be doubted, and whose Inclination and Desire I can assure your Serenity of. I do therefore, by order of the Queen my Sovereign, propose that such Alliances may be made and established, as will conduce to those Ends. I believe that the Advantage which must accrue to any State by encouraging Trade and Commerce, will not be denied; it is so evident, that to make a Doubt would be preposterous; and how any State that neglects it, must decline, is as apparent. I leave your Serenity to judge if the happy Situation of this Place does not require your Attention to it. What I do propose, is, That a Treaty of Commerce may be established between the Queen my Sovereign, and this State, as may ascertain and establish the Interest of both. I will not doubt but your Serenity, and this most serene Republick, will seriously consider these Propositions. I am persuaded, that your Ambassador in *Britain* has often, and very justly, informed your Serenity of the Disposition that Court has always shewed, and I hope it will be my good Fortune, to be the happy Instrument of what I take will conduce so much to the Advantage, Honour, and Interest of this State.

The

*The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech made in the COLLEGE,
on the 11th of October 1707.*

Most Serene Prince,

THE Occasion of desiring this Audience, is to acquaint your Serenity, how grateful and acceptable it would be to the Queen my Sovereign, if this most serene Republick did acknowledge her Brother and Ally, the King of *Prussia*, whom all *Europe* has owned, but this State, and those Princes with whom he is actually in War. I hope there is little or no Occasion to say more on such a Subject: 'tis a Prince too considerable for any State not to desire his Friendship, and who cannot but have a very great Influence at all times, but especially in the present Juncture of Affairs in *Europe*. I shall therefore only take notice, that the Duke of *Tuscany*, as a Neutral Prince, did not make the least difficulty; and the Duke of *Savoy*, when engaged in a League offensive and defensive with *France*, thought that no Obligation from doing what he was convinced was reasonable and just. I should be very glad to inform the Queen my Sovereign, how ready this most serene Republick is to comply with what she desires, and I imagine it cannot meet with the least Difficulty or Opposition.

The Senate's Answer to the Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech, made by him on the 5th of October, and received by him in the COLLEGE on the 17th of the said Month, 1707.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Proposal made by your Lordship in our College on the 5th Instant, has been received by the Senate, with that perfect Esteem, which so worthy a Reconfirmation of the perfect Disposition, which the *British* Queen keeps up towards our Republick, deserves. The same Sentiments have been often insinuated at *London*, with all the Acknowledgments of our Minds, by the Ministers of her Majesty, to our Ambassador at *London*, during the Course of so many Vicissitudes of the present War, so glorious for the Actions and the Aims of her Majesty. The Senate having therefore, by means of him explained, on various Occasions, its Sentiments and Cares, for what may regard the Solidity of the common Repose, and the Security of this Province, which is so much concerned in the general Affairs of *Europe*; as it has also shewn an equal Eagerness in what may augment the Affluence of Commerce with the *British* Nation; your Lordship may rest assured, that the Prudence of the Senate, finding it more than ever necessary at present, to be fixed in those Sentiments that are suitable to the present Times, those new Proposals, which may be made in the name of her Majesty, tending to such happy Objects, and which are more and more to corroborate that sincere Correspondence, which we have always endeavoured to cultivate with the *British* Crown, will be received by us with great Eagerness, and we comprehend very well, what wholesome and profitable Effects may arrive from it. We shall only add in the mean while to your Lordship, who is so prudent a Minister, and in so much Credit; that as our Republick preserves a grateful Memory of your good Inclination towards us, which you shewed also in the last Embassy, so she is persuaded that you will continue in it on the present Occasion, with an Assurance, that it will be answered by all the Consideration and Affection towards your worthy Person.

*A Memorial presented to the COLLEGE, on the 20th of
October 1707.*

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

I Cannot but hope, from the Answer of the Senate, which I have received from your Serenity, that there is all the imaginable Disposition here to

concur with the Queen my Sovereign in what she thinks that the Interest of this State, as well as that of all *Europe*, is so much interested in. It would be very unfortunate, if by the not understanding one another well, that which is desired, and what may be of the last Consequence, according as the Affairs of *Europe* turn, should end in Words, and in Compliments. I notify therefore to your Serenity, the desire Her Majesty has, that this Most Serene Republick would unite with Her, and enter into the Grand Alliance. I hope that the Terms and Conditions, which I propose in Her Name, besides the mutual Security there is in it for all, will be sufficient to engage this State. It is not necessary that I should here repeat the Reasons why so many Princes and States have entered into this Alliance; that is sufficiently known, as are also their Intentions for the Common Benefit. The Justice of their Cause has hitherto given them Success, and this State is perhaps as much concerned as any in what may be the End of it. Besides, the Apprehensions which might have been conceived on the Addition of the *Milanese* to the States of a Prince already formidable, are entirely removed, by that State's being declared annexed to the Monarchy of *Spain*. I cannot but think that it ought to be the Care and Concern of this State in particular, that this may remain so, as also that the Balance of Power, in which *Italy* is so much concerned, should be secured. The Motives proposed, and which shew the true Intentions of the Queen my Sovereign, are: First, The Promises for Herself, and the Allies, that no Treaty of Peace shall be made without the Knowledge and Participation of this State.

Secondly, That whenever such a Treaty shall be set on foot, Care shall be taken of what concerns the Interest and the Affairs of this State equally with all the other Allies. Thirdly, Subsidies shall be granted, and paid to this State for such Troops as this most Serene Republick shall furnish, in proportion to the Number of those who shall be employed in the Service of the Allies, on the same foot with those Forces that have been paid by the Allies in the last and in this Year in *Italy*.

Fourthly, That those Troops shall be commanded by a General of this State, subordinate however to the Orders and Directions of the Duke of *Savoy*, or the Commander in Chief of the Allies in *Italy*. As to what I have mentioned about Commerce, I am glad to find the Senate disposed to enter into those Considerations. This makes me also desirous of considering that Affair a little more, before I make my Propositions, that so they may not meet with the least Difficulty, when they shall be considered (as I do not doubt but they will) with a publick Spirit; altho' they should be of disadvantage to some private Persons, whose Advantages arise chiefly from Proceedings that are not over-just. I believe it will not now be doubted, but that the Queen my Sovereign shews she is desirous of entering into the strictest Alliance with this State, and I flatter myself that I shall meet with the same Inclination here, which will make it necessary that some body should be appointed to treat with me about these Matters, else I cannot see how we can come to the happy Conclusion that is desired. I should hope that this most Serene Republick will not defer the Consideration about these Matters, that so I may be enabled to inform the Queen my Sovereign of it, and that she may take such Measures as may be thought most proper in this Juncture of Affairs. I cannot but think my self very fortunate in having gained the good Opinion of this most Serene Republick. I will not fail to endeavour to merit it by all my Actions, and I should be pleased if it was in my power to contribute to any thing for the Service of this most Serene Republick.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Turin, October 22. 1707.

MONSIEUR Zinzerling, Secretary to the King of *Spain*, arrived here some days since from *England*, and brought Orders for the Embarking the *Palatines* in the Queen and the States Pay, for *Spain*: but this Gentleman did not bring me the least orders. However, I have consented to every thing

thing, as your Excellency will see by the inclosed, which is the result of our Debates, and the best Account I can give you of what I have done. It will be a great Satisfaction to me, if your Excellency does approve of what my Zeal has made me do without Orders; which indeed, I was not very willing to consent to, but the Urgency of the Service will, I hope, excuse me, if I have been too forward.

I have received no Orders, nor indeed any Letters, from *England* since the News of our ill Success in *Provence* has reached them; which does not a little surprize me. I hope, when your Excellency knows any thing of the Measures taken, you will be pleased to let me hear from you, that I may judge how Matters are like to go with us. I have the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 15th Instant. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, October 22. 1707.

ACCORDING to the Account I gave your Lordship in my last of the 14th, the *French* Ambassador came hither the same day, without giving any notice of his Approach, refusing to receive the Honours the City intended to do him, because they would not do more for him than they did for Count *Metternich*. As soon as he arrived, he began to talk in his huffing Style, by threatening not only the Deputies that were sent from the several Bodies to compliment him, but even the Judges themselves; whom he sent for, separately, and denounced his Master's severest Vengeance upon them and their Posterity, unless they chose one of the *French* Pretenders for their Prince. However, it doth not appear that his blustering has in the least intimidated the People in general, or the Judges in particular. On the 17th, the Tribunal met according to the last Adjournment, but did nothing remarkable. The next day the *French* Ambassador went thither himself, and delivered a second Memorial; the same, as to the substance, with the first, but less violent in the Terms, as your Lordship will see by the inclosed Copy of it. The *Dutch* Minister and I designed to have taken an Audience together, as soon as *Monf. de Puisieulx's* was over, to present our Memorial; but the Council of State, who had no mind we should appear there, rais'd Difficulties about the Ceremonial with me, which prevented our going; so that we chose to send our Memorial, and desired it might be publicly read, which was accordingly done, in spite of the Opposition of the Council of State. The Reason why that Council was against the publick reading of it, is, because we lay open some of the Intrigues of the Governour and the *French* Party, which they feared would discredit them with the People, as it really has. It is not worth while to trouble your Lordship with the Disputes we had about the Ceremonial. The Manner they proposed to receive me in, is much less honourable than what is practis'd in all the rest of *Switzerland*, and tho' (to prevent any Delay, which, was what they aim'd at) we did not think fit to insist upon our going to Audience in Person, yet in a proper Time I will take care to have Satisfaction upon that Particular, before I leave the place. The next day the three States took into Consideration *Monfieur Puisieulx's* Demands of a Delay, and our Opposition to it, and resolv'd to proceed in the Cause without granting any Delay. When the Sentence was intimated to the *French* Ambassador, he receiv'd it very calmly, and still continues here, waiting, as he says, for the Return of a Courier he has sent to Court for new Orders. By some Words which he let drop, there is reason to believe, that Court is apprehensive the Allies design to enter into *Franché Comté* by this Country, which makes it oppose the King of *Prussia* with such heat and violence, and it is certain that Orders are given for palisading *Poncarlier* and some other Frontier Towns; so that it's thought the *French* Ambassador stays chiefly to secure a Neutrality with this Country, in case the King of *Prussia* succeeds, and when that Point is once settled, that he will not be so violent in his Opposition, as he has been hitherto: this however is but a probable Conjecture, of which a few days will discover the Truth. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To

My Lord,

Vienna, October 22. 1707.

AT length the Duke of *Savoy* has had justice done him, and the several Investitures will be granted him. Thursday last many were call'd to Council upon that Occasion, and amongst others the Prince of *Mansfeld*, who had not assisted since the Death of the late Emperor. Whether they design to call him regularly, or only at that Time, and upon that Occasion, is not known. He had the chief hand in forming the Treaty with the Duke. There was never a Negative after long reasoning, and the Intention is to procure the Duke of *Mantua's* being put in the Ban of the Empire forthwith. I am desir'd to write to your Excellency to beg to know whether a Count *Commazzi* has applied to you, and in what manner, concerning the Affairs of that Duke. The *Savoy* Ministers give to understand, that it may be of use to their Master to be inform'd of that. I wish that what your Lordship recollects, and thinks fit to send, may be wrote in *French*, since it is for them. I am sorry for the Duke of *Marlborough*, who has been travelling in the most dismal Weather that I have known. I hope to hear next Week from *Frankfort* of his safe Arrival there, where, I believe, he was expected yesterday: Count *Wratislaw* set out from hence to meet him there on Tuesday last. We had a fine Ball at Court on Sunday last, on the Princess of *Wolfenbuttle's* being declared the Royal Spouse of King *Charles* on that Day. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, October 14. 1707. O. S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 30th of *September N. S.* You will have received, long before this, my Letter, in which I acquainted you that our Disappointment at *Toulon* had alter'd nothing in the Thoughts of engaging the *Venetians*, if possible, in the Alliance: but rather made it more necessary. Whether they will hearken to any Proposals of that kind, I very much question; however, all Endeavours should be used. I am entirely of your Lordship's Opinion in relation to the Causes of our Disappointment at *Toulon*, and the Uneasinesses between the Duke of *Savoy* and Prince *Eugene* do increase every day so much, that I wish with all my heart, Prince *Eugene* was in *Spain*, that so both of them might act independently: and by our Letters from *Vienna* we have reason to believe that they will consent to his going to *Spain*. I am glad your Lordship thinks there's no Ground for the Discourse that has been, of the Treaty between the Republick, the Pope, and the Great Duke; not that such a Treaty would be very formidable, but that it would make it more difficult to engage the Republick. I am sorry to hear your Lordship has been indisposed, but I hope we shall by the next Letters hear it's over. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Pera of Constantinople, October 27. 1707.

I Am honoured with your Lordship's obliging Letter of the 13th *August*, &c. Your Lordship is pleased to observe, that the Republick is not without its Fears with regard to the *Turks*; of which I am the more sensible, for that ever since I came into this Country, their Embassadors at the Port have entertained continual Umbrages and Jealousies, which could never be discovered to have any Foundation, but in their own Imaginations, which I suppose suggest to 'em, that it was prudent to apprehend a thing, that might possibly come to pass, tho' there were no evident Signs of it. I humbly conceive their present Fears have no better Grounds hitherto. But it must be confessed, that the *Turks* bear them as little respect as they do good-will, and deal so rudely with them on several little Occasions, as might justly administer Suspicions to 'em, if they had not a long time been acquainted with the same Usage. 'Tis above a Twelve-month

month since the *Turks* sent any Supplies of Ammunitions to their Places on the *Venetian* Frontiers, which before were wholly unprovided of them; and their Stores are now so slender in *Negropont*, *Lepanto*, and elsewhere, and there are besides so few Troops in those Parts, that 'tis not possible they should give any real Alarm. The Emperor has more reason to be offended at the Proceedings of the Porte, in favouring the *Hungarian* Male-contents, and admitting their Deputies, to whom they have assigned the House formerly belonging to the Princes of *Transylvania*: and yet the *Imperialists* do not only dissemble it, tho' it is directly contrary to the Treaty, but seem to live in less Apprehension than the *Venetians*, who have hitherto least reason to complain.

We have no Alteration here since I had the Honour to write to your Lordship last, except a violent Persecution of the *Armenians*, who had of late Years been perverted to the *Romish* Religion by the *Jesuits*; which being the richest Part of that Nation, the *Armenian* Church lost thereby the best Part of their Contributions. This raised great Animosities and Disputes, and both Parties addressing themselves to, and bribing the Ministers of the Porte, they had their Turns of Favour; sometimes the one, and sometimes the other being uppermost, and making a Patriarch of their respective Factions. In the Vizier *Azem's* time, the old *Armenians* had entirely gained the Victory, multitudes of the new Converts having been some time ago sent to the Gallies, or fled for safety. These last days past a considerable Number of the richest among them, who had absconded, and were either come abroad again, or lived privately in their own Houses, were on a sudden seized, and condemned to Death unless they would turn *Turks*. The first that renounced his Faith was a deposed Patriarch, who had been for some time among the Grand Signor's Slaves in the place called the *Bagno*, whose Example was immediately followed by seven of the richest of the Prisoners, and since that, by several others; none having yet laid down his Life for the Truth of the Christian Religion, but one old Priest, who was beheaded two days ago. The Persecution is yet in its height, search being daily made after all others that ever frequented the *Latin* Churches. This Severity of taking the Subjects Lives away for Matter of Religion, is contrary to the ancient *Turkish* Maxims and Practice, and it is said, that to obtain the Sultan's Hattesherriffe, or Order signed with his own hand, for it, it was falsely represented to him, that these *Armenians* were become *Franks*, and had withdrawn their Obedience from him, and refused to pay Tribute; which last Point they say touched him to the quick, as being excessively concerned for his Interest. I have already informed your Lordship of the Death of the famous *Aurenzebe* Emperor of *Mogul*. The Advices from *Persia* give an Account, that three of his Sons had possessed themselves each of a Part of his Empire, and were at war among themselves. I have nothing more material to send, and am, &c.

ROB. SUTTON.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, October 28. 1707.

I Am to acknowledge the Honour of your Lordship's of the 23d of *September*, by which I find there is no Alteration in the Measures in relation to this Republick; so I shall pursue them, and do my utmost to engage this State. I cannot yet expect to hear from them, tho' I hope for it very soon. It is certain that the Court of *Vienna* would not have them come into the Alliance on any Terms; and the last Step, which I have already informed your Lordship of, shews plainly the Intention of the Court. Sir *Philip Meadows* has since informed me how that Matter passed, and that he did not name the Republick in the least, tho' he says they have represented it to the Ambassador there with disgust. I hope it may have a good Effect, and open their Eyes here, and that they will be convinced, that this State has no real Friend but *England*; which they may possibly lose, if they do not embrace this Opportunity. The *Venetian* Ambassador is arrived here from *Rome*, so that the Breach between this State and the Pope is wider than ever. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

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To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, October 29. 1707.

SINCE my last, we have made so good a progress in our Negotiation, that I hope there remain now but few more Difficulties to be conquered. On the 24th, the three States met, according to their last Adjournment, in order to read over the whole Process; but the Lawyers of the remaining *French* Pretenders, made use of all sorts of Chicane to hinder it, and started so many Incidents only to spend the Time, that the Court could not begin it that day: however, with much ado they did the next, and continued the reading it the day following, when the Governour (who is entirely in the *French* Interest) to put off the Decision of the Business as long as he can, adjourned the Assembly to the 29th of his own Authority, and then broke it up before the three States could rectify that Abuse, for it belongs to them alone to adjourn themselves. However, it being done, they acquiesced in it, not thinking fit to dispute for so small a Delay, but they have taken Measures in the mean time to prevent the Governor's assuming the like Authority for the future. In a day or two, I hope, they will finish the Process and the Pleadings, and that the three States will give the King of *Prussia* the Investiture on the 3d or 4th of *November*. I say, I hope; because tho' the Tribunal seems to be agreed upon it, I have been so often surpriz'd by unexpected Delays in this Business, that I dare no more positively affirm, they will do all they promise within the time they set. The *French* Ambassador having remain'd in a profound Silence since my last, received an Answer two days ago by the Courier he had dispatch'd to Court, with the Account of the Tribunal's having refus'd the Delay he demanded, and went away the next Morning, without informing them what it was, or sending them any Message or Memorial. His Silence is interpreted variously, but the most probable Conjecture is, that the *French* Court, finding these People resolute, and apprehending this Business may by degrees engage them in a War on this side, have left their Ambassador to himself, to execute the Threats he has so liberally bestowed since his coming hither, and think only of securing a Neutrality with this Country by peaceable Ways; in order to which, I am just now told, Mr. *de Puisieux* has demanded a General Diet of the 13 Cantons at *Baden*, for the 15th of next Month. At the same time, that the *French* Ambassador went from hence, Madame *de Soissons* went too, Messieurs *de Villeroy*, and *de Matignon* left *Poncalier*, and Mr. *de la Closure*, the *French* Resident, return'd to his Post at *Geneva*; so that we have given them a second general Rout, and have conquered them in their last Effort. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neuchâtel, November 5. 1707.

IN my last, I told your Lordship we had a good Prospect, and I am now very glad I can tell you we have made a happy End of our Negotiation. On *Saturday* the 29th past, the Governor finding the *French* Party lost beyond retrieve, resolv'd to follow their Fate, and quitted the Government. Upon which the three States chose the eldest Counsellor of State President in his room; and on *Monday* the 31st, the Lawyers of the King of *Prussia*, and of the Prince of *Carignan*, (the only two Pretenders that remain'd) pleaded their Cause after those of the Prince of *Montbelliard*, of the Marquis *d'Allegre*, and of Madame *de Mailly* had protested; upon which the Judges declar'd they would give a definite Sentence on *Thursday* the 3d Instant. Accordingly the Day before Yesterday they gave Sentence in favour of the King of *Prussia*, and granted the Investiture to Count *Metternich* his Ambassador, who immediately took the Government upon him. Yesterday he took an Oath, in the name of the King his Master, to observe the Rights and Privileges of the People, as they also took the Oath of Fidelity and Allegiance to their new Prince; which Act was performed in Ceremony, upon a publick Scaffold, at which I assisted. I cannot send your Lordship a Copy of the Sentence till next Post, because there is

is a Passage in it relating to the Prince of *Carignan*, which his Lawyers desire may be alter'd before it be published, and which Count *Metternich* is willing to agree to, since they have acted in concert with him to favour his Pretensions, in consideration of 3000 Crowns, which the King of *Prussia* gives that Prince, by way of Compensation: but this Treaty they desire, for several Reasons, may be kept a Secret. Having thus luckily finished our Business here, I shall return to my Post at *Berne*, in a few days more, from whence I shall do my self the Honour to write to your Lordship, as often as any thing worth your Notice comes to my Knowledge. In spite of all the Threats of the *French* Ambassador, there is no Appearance as yet, that they will trouble the Quiet of this Country. I have just now received the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 29th past, for which I return my most humble Thanks; and am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Neufchatel, November 9. 1707.

ACCORDING to my Promise in my last of the 5th Instant, I send your Lordship a Copy of the Sentence, by which the Investiture of the Counties of *Neufchatel* and *Vallengin* is granted to the King of *Prussia*. Since that, Count *Metternich* has notified it to the Cantons allied to this State, viz. *Berne*, *Soleure*, *Fribourg*, and *Lucerne*. The first of which has appointed a solemn Embassy, consisting of six Senators of the first rank to compliment him, who are expected here to-morrow; what the other three will do, is yet uncertain, they being Catholics, and in the Interest of *France*. Yesterday I accompanied Count *Metternich* to *Vallengin*, whither he went to take the usual Oath as Prince, in the Name of the King his Master, and at the same time, to be present at their taking the Oath of Fidelity. The *Militia* of the whole Country was under Arms, and received him with all possible Marks of Zeal and Joy. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, October 31. 1707. O. S.

WE have now four Posts due, so that we have none from your Lordship, since your Letter of the 7th Instant. I hope our next Letters from your Lordship, will give us some account, in what manner the Senate has receiv'd your Proposals. The Draught of the Treaty of Commerce is not yet finish'd, but will in a few days. As to what you desire to know of Monsieur *Cornaro*, he has never made any Proposition to us; but what Lord Treasurer and I writ to you, was occasioned by some Discourse we had with him. I am with all Respect, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Nov. 11. 1707.

I Believe your Lordship will think it long before I have an Answer here, which they will excuse, whenever I have it, by alledging that it was a time, when great numbers of Senators were absent, and that the Propositions did require the utmost Consideration. This will be the Pretence, but I do know that they are under great Distrust, from what has happened at *Vienna*, which I have already acquainted your Lordship with; and the manner in which that Court has represented that Matter to them, makes them less inclin'd, if that be possible, to come into those Measures with the Queen. Besides, I find they have quite other Views, as being more apprehensive of the House of *Austria*, than of *France*; and it is as certain, that the Court of *Vienna* does not in the least desire they should be included in the Grand Alliance, on any Terms. The *French* Ambassador has had lately an Audience, at which he delivered a Letter from King *Philip*, notifying the Birth of the Prince of *Asturias*. He also gave them an Account of the taking of *Ciudad Rodrigo*, and that they would

would be soon Masters of *Lerida*. He did also desire they would well consider the Propositions which might be made them, to the prejudice of his Master. I do understand, that they intend to answer this Letter, with very obliging Expressions; and it seems to me, that the chief part they intend to act here, is to amuse the rest of *Europe*, and do nothing. I am so much of that opinion, that, in case they should proceed, and seem to embrace the Offers the Queen has made them, I should doubt of the Conclusion. I should be glad to know, if their Ambassador does explain their Intentions more fully; for all things are made Mysteries here, of what nature soever they be, and none dares talk of what the Government does, or intends. Count *Martinitz* has left *Naples*, and is a going to *Vienna*. King *Charles* has sent Orders to Count *Thaun*, to act as Viceroy *pro interim*. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To Mr. COLE.

SIR,

Whitehall, October 31. 1707. O. S.

YESTERDAY we had News, that the Body of Sir *Cloudefly Shovel* was found on the Coast of *Cornwall*. The Fishermen, who were searching among the Wrecks, took a Tin-box out of the Pocket of one of the Carcasses, that was floating, and found in it a Commission of an Admiral; upon which, examining the Body more narrowly, they saw it was poor Sir *Cloudefly*. You may guess the Condition of his unhappy Wife, who lost, in the same Ship with her Husband, her two only Sons by Sir *John Harborough*. We begin to despair of the two other Men of War, and the Fireship that engaged among the same Rocks. I am, &c. J. ADDISON.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord

Venice, November 18. 1707.

I Found it necessary, by the Measures which they are here about to take, to present another Memorial, which was delivered on the 15th, and that Night they had a great Consultation, where all those who were out of the College, as there is a time fixed for others to come in, were sent for. They debated whether they ought to come into the Grand Alliance, and hearken to those Propositions which I had made; which ended by declaring that it was by no means their Interest. That the Power of the House of *Austria* was too great already, that so far as they engaged, ought to be towards the Support of *France* and *Spain*; by which means the Allies might be brought at last into such Measures, that the Safety of *Italy*, and consequently of themselves, might be secured. They all took an Oath of Secrecy, not to reveal this upon pain of Death, and now they are preparing to return me such an Answer, as may not displease the Queen, nor give any Suspicion of what their real Intentions are; which I expect to send your Lordship by the next Post. The *French* Ambassador was sent for the next day, who I hear returned very well satisfied. The *Dutch* Consul here has also delivered a Letter from the States to this Republick: but he does not know the Contents. The re-establishing of the Duke of *Mantua*, is what they aim at here, which they would be glad could be done by others, tho' they are afraid even to appear in it. In short, I know them so well, that I do positively affirm to your Lordship, that there will be no Measures taken here, but what in the consequence will be for the Service of *France*. I desire you will take no notice to *Monf. Cornaro* of what I write, it might be fatal to some; and when you have the Answer from the Senate, I do not doubt but, however it be disguised, it will easily be perceived what they mean. I have just now received from Mr. *Addison* several Articles about Trade, which the Merchants have delivered, for your Lordship's Perusal. There are some, particularly that of fixing the *Agio* of their current Money, which cannot be done, unless they will reduce it to the true Value, which is at present impossible for them to do. I shall obey the Orders I received; but I am of opinion, that as the Foundation here is nought, the Superstructure cannot be otherwise; and that what they may do in relation to Trade, will

will be in such a manner, that it will be of very little Service to *England*. I do not say but it ought to be tried nevertheless, but I cannot think that any thing essential will be obtained. I am still of opinion, that there is no League between the Pope, the *Venetians*, and the Great-Duke; but this is what *France* presses, and they are endeavouring to accommodate the differences between the Pope and this State. A Merchant-man is arrived here, who tells me he left Admiral *Dilks*, with 15 *English* and *Dutch* Men of War, off of *Allicant* on the 16th of *October N. S.* I have received the Honour of your Lordship's of the 14th *October O. S.* I desire you will observe whether this Letter has been opened, and do me the Favour to acknowledge the Receipt of it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Earl of MANCHESTER's Memorial, presented on the 15th of November 1707.

Translated out of Italian,

Most Serene Prince,

I Did not design to have made any further Application till I should have received the Resolution of the Senate on the Propositions already made: but my hearing nothing of it, makes me conclude that some Difficulties may have been started; and having all the Zeal imaginable for the Prosperity of this M. S. Republick, I should be glad to remove them. I think this Opportunity ought not to be neglected, and perhaps Propositions of this nature may never be repeated. It is not without its Difficulties now. The Safety of any State whatever depends chiefly from its being able to defend it self against all Events, and that proceeds ordinarily from the Assistance of others; and this is the Reason why Alliances are established with Princes, for their mutual Security. The Encouragement of Commerce will produce Riches, and Troops well disciplined and accustomed to the Service are the best Defence. If that be true, as I believe it cannot be denied, I will positively affirm, that by the Propositions which your Serenity has received, in the Name of the Queen my Sovereign, those Ends are entirely answered, or at least they may be so, whenever this M. S. Republick will seriously and cordially embrace them. It is true that nothing is so clear, that it may not meet with Objections; imaginary Dangers may be suggested, and a Power which has for so long a time given Laws to the greatest Part of *Europe*, may be feared, tho' at present there is little likelihood that this can ever happen. The Manner in which that Power has acted, will be a sufficient Reason for the rest of *Europe* not to suffer it any more. I cannot but think that this M. S. Republick has had its share of it. I will not mention the Insults in your Gulph, even your Ports have not been a Defence for those whom by your Neutrality you ought to have defended. Nor shall I take notice of the Damage which this State has received by the Measures hitherto taken. A Neutrality can do service to no body, and is in its nature in the Interest of none; and thus in consequence, whenever by Advantages, or by Discontent, any more formidable Power engages with this State, it is easily to be imagined what may reasonably be expected, and what will be the Consequence of such a Proceeding. How distant soever these Accidents may be, yet the Wisdom of any State whatever must prevent even the Possibility; and I affirm, that if the Senate reflects, the Offers of the Queen my Sovereign cannot be judged, or be in any manner suspected by them to have any other View than the Good and Benefit of this M. S. Republick. I would also willingly remove what has been perhaps imagined, *viz.* that the Allies may hearken to Propositions of Peace. I do not say that this is impossible; but I will say, that it is not to be on other Terms than those which were the Motives of this War, and I doubt not but they will have it in their power to make their own Terms. This Advantage, besides others, will this State receive, that by concurring with the Queen my Sovereign, its Interest will be considered, and its Security established in the same manner with that of the Allies, which cannot be expected or hoped for with any Reason, without a Step of this nature. The Ne-

cessity of Affairs, and the Measures which are taking to carry on the War with the utmost Vigour, make me desire the Resolutions of the Senate with the greatest impatience, that so I may send Advice of it to the Queen, who expects it from me. As to what regards the King of *Prussia*, I know it would be very grateful to the Queen my Sovereign to find the Senate of her Opinion. I was in hopes of having an Opportunity of answering all Objections, and that is the Reason why I have desired some Deputation, which is practis'd every where. I shall always wish for the Prosperity of this M. S. Republick, and I will not doubt, till I see the contrary, but that the proper Measures for that End will be taken.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, November. 1707. O. S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 14, 21, and 28th of *October* N. S. with the Copy of your last Memorial to the College. I have laid them before the Queen, and Her Majesty does entirely approve of every step your Lordship has taken in this Affair, and I am glad to find you have some hopes of their giving a favourable Answer; till we know what that is, it is impossible to judge what is proper to do further. I don't at all wonder at the Proceedings of the Court of *Vienna*, in their Complaint to the Ambassador *Delfino*; but I can assure you, there was no ground for it, for *Monf. Cornaro* never made the least Proposal of that nature: so that as it comes in your way, your Lordship will do him Justice in that Matter. Our *British* Parliament open'd yesterday. You will receive, by this Post, the Queen's Speech; but for three or four Days the Houses will be taken up in Forms: but you may depend upon their continuing the War with the utmost Vigour. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, November 26. 1707.

I Send your Lordship the Answer of the Senate, whereby you will see that they have agreed to appoint one of their Nobles to treat with me, which, I hope, will bring Matters to some Conclusion. The Person who is appointed is the Procurator *Giustiniani*, one of the *Cinque Savii alla Mercanzia*, the five Sages of the Council of Trade, which Magistrature has the whole Direction of all Matters relating to Commerce. I understand that this was done to prevent the jealousy the *French* Ambassador might have, that there was any other Negotiation on foot, but what related to Trade; and I am also persuaded that it is the Intention of the Senate, and that he is to endeavour to evade as much as possible, the discoursing of the Propositions I have made, by entering on the Subject of Commerce. They will find themselves disappointed, for I intend to let him know that what relates to Trade will easily be adjusted, in case the Senate does first come into those Measures the Queen proposes; and that it is absolutely necessary for Her Majesty to know their Resolution, before I can make any further Step. I shall not fail to use all the Arguments I can, to induce him to represent this Matter strongly to the Senate: but I am still of the same Opinion with what I acquainted your Lordship with in my last, and that was then the Determination of the Consultation in the College, where all Things are prepared and digested before they bring it into the Senate. I do find notwithstanding that, when it came before the Senate, it did occasion very warm Debates, and ended in this Answer; which is drawn up with great Precaution, and seems to shew plainly that they have no other Intentions but to grant some Things for the ease of Trade: by which means they hope to satisfy, and not disgust the Queen, which they are very apprehensive of doing; otherwise they would not have granted a Deputation, that being against their Maxims of State, and which the *French* Ambassador could never obtain, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The

*The Senate's Answers to the Earl of MANCHESTER's Memorials,
brought to his House on the 21st of November 1707.*

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Propositions made by your Lordship in the name of H. M. the Queen of Great-Britain, are received with a particular Regard by the Senate, and in the same manner are considered, those that were offered to them in your last Memorials of the 20th of September past, and the 15th of the current Month. Having by the Contents of them perceived your Desire, that some body may be appointed, to whom you might more particularly explain your self, and as the Matter of the reciprocal and mutual Trade of both the Subjects requires a verbal Discussion, the Senate agrees to satisfy your Desires, by deputing one of our Nobles, who will be appointed to see you, after the necessary Concerts with your Lordship, to hear what you would propose; re-assuring you in the mean while, of the Cordialness of our Affection, and the Consideration which we shall always have for your worthy Person.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Turin, November 26. 1707.

I Have received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter, of the 19th, and beg leave to thank you for the Favour you design me of the Queen's Picture. A Courier arrived here the other day from *Holland*, with Letters for H. R. H. from the Duke of *Marlborough*, &c. about the Operations of the next Campaign in general, and in particular, in relation to the Troops we are to have here, which will be about 20,000 Men less than the last Year; the *Landgrave* of *Hesse* not being to be prevail'd with to let us keep his Troops another Year. However, if all do their Duty, we shall still have an Army of 45,000 Men, which will do our Business. This Army is to be reckoned at 20,000 *Imperialists*, 8000 *Prussians*, 3000 *Saxons*, and 15,000 *Piedmontois*: but I fear the first and the last will fall very much short. The Imperial Regiments are all very weak, and I do not see what Measures are taken about the Recruits; and as for H. R. H. if he brings 9000 Men into the Field, that will be the outside: so I fear that our 45,000 Men will not be much above 30,000 Men, and we cannot pretend to make an offensive War here, with less than 40,000 Men. H. R. H. does design to send one of his Officers to *Vienna*, with Prince *Eugene*, to settle every thing with that Court, in relation to the necessary Funds, &c. for the Army. This is certainly right: but H. R. H. pretends to make so great a Reform, that I fear he will do little or nothing; and to be free with your Excellency, I see very little Probability of doing any thing in these Parts, the next Campaign: if I may be allowed to draw Consequences from H. R. H.'s Discourses, from those who are the nearest to his Person, and from the Indolence I see in every body here, I believe H. R. H. will not go into the Field; and, farther, he would not be sorry to see the War at an end here. This is my Opinion of Matters at present: but it is what I do not venture to say to any body besides your Excellency, who I am persuaded will forgive me, should I be out in my Judgment, as I wish I may be; but I fear I am not. I will take the first Opportunity to make your Excellency's Compliments to H. R. H. upon the good way his Affairs are in at the Court of *Vienna*. The Emperor has ordered Commissaries to be appointed to settle the Equivalent for the *Vigevenasco*, for which H. R. H. has chosen the Count *de Vernon*, and Mr. *de Melerade*. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, November 26. 1707.

I Suppose your Excellency has learned from Mr. *Cole*, what has happened to *Comazzi*; concerning whom, I took the liberty to write some time ago. He

He was seized in the Suburbs with his Papers; but I can't find, notwithstanding I have had some Curiosity about it, that any considerable Matter was detected. Prince *Lamberg* was sent privately to him by the Emperor, in order to discover what might be most worth learning, but to little purpose. We have met with Rubs and Difficulties in the Duke of *Savoy's* Affairs, since my last, and the other day a certain *Comte Melzi*, with a Deputy from *Vigevano*, arrived here from *Milan*, pretending to make a Compliment only to the Emperor, in the name of that Dutchy, and to thank H. I. Majesty, for his having by his Arms restored the Dutchy to the House of *Austria*. But the real Design has been discovered, which was to make vigorous Remonstrances to the Emperor, in the name of the State of *Milan*, touching the dismembring of that Dutchy, in favour of H. R. H. the Duke of *Savoy*. These Men were introduced to their Audience of the Emperor by the Marquis *del Vasto*, the King of *Spain's* Ambassador, it is thought without the Order or Knowledge of that King. Notwithstanding this, Count *Tarini* thinks that his Master will soon receive the Investiture of what he claims by Treaties in the *Milanese*, as well as of the *Montferrat*. It is thought that Count *Wratislaw* is now at *Hanover*, and he will take *Dresden* and *Breslaw* in his way hither, where the Emperor's Commissioners are at work in good earnest, to put the Convention in execution. Some say, it is to be feared that the *Swede* will enlarge his Demands. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, December 2. 1707.

I Have met the Procurator *Giustiniani* at *St. George's* Convent, that being thought the most proper Place; where after a great many Compliments, and great Professions from the Republick to the Queen, he let me know, that he was appointed by the Senate to hear what I had further to propose, and what I had in relation to Trade, &c. I repeated to him the same Propositions which I had made in the College, and I explained to him several Particulars; as that the Queen and the Allies were willing to grant Subsidies, on the same foot they had done to the auxiliary Troops in *Italy*, and would employ their Men in their Service, 10,000 Men, or more, if the Republick could spare them. He desired to know whether I spoke in the name of the Allies, or only in the Queen's: for he observed that in the first Memorial, I mentioned the Allies, but in the last, I only named the Queen. I owned, it might possibly be so; but that the Invitation was from the Queen, as by the Grand Alliance every Prince had power to invite any other State or Potentate, and that the Queen did, and would engage for the Allies, in case the Republick would come into those Measures with her. I believe his meaning was, that the making of any particular Alliance with the Queen, would not engage them into a Declaration against *France*, which it seems was their Desire. He took notice that these Troops, tho' they were to be commanded by a General of their own, yet they were to be under the Direction of the Duke of *Savoy*, or the Commander in chief of the Allies in *Italy*. He asked whether there were any *English* Forces to come for *Italy*, as also a General; and he named my Lord *Peterborough*. I told him, that I could not say there was any such Intention. I was surprized at this Question, tho' your Lordship may know the Reason. He also took notice of *Mantua*, as a Matter that could not but concern them, as also of what they had suffered, which it was reasonable should be considered: but he often mention'd, that he had exceeded his Commission, and said that he was to report only what I had to offer. I told him that I thought, that what I had said already, was a sufficient Inducement for the Republick to accept the Offers of the Queen, considering the Situation of Affairs in *Europe*. That till I saw a real Disposition in the Senate, I could say no more, but only that they might be assured, that, in case they would come into the Alliance, the Queen would do whatever was in her power to do for the Security of their Interest: but without that, there could be no Pretence or Colour for her Majesty to concern herself,

herself, whatever did happen. After all the Arguments I had made use of, or could think of, I did not omit shewing him that this was the last Opportunity, I thought, the Republick could have of making the Figure they were desirous of making. That he might also imagine, that at a Treaty of Peace, it would be said, that they had shewed so little Concern during the War, that it was not necessary they should be concerned in such a Treaty, and I left him to judge, whether that would be for their Interest. He took notice that one of the Propositions was, that no Treaty of Peace should be made without their Notice and Participation, and the word Consent was not there. I agreed it was so, but that I understood that those Words meant a general Consent. He asked me whether I thought the Peace was near, for he had heard that *France* had made Proposals in *Holland*. I told him, I could not tell but it might be so, but that I saw no other Disposition in *England*, but for the carrying on the War with the utmost Vigour. He owned that Monsieur *Cornaro* writ the same thing, and that your Lordship had shewed him one of my Letters, wherein I acquaint you, that I thought the Republick would continue still in their Neutrality. I told him he might then see that in *England* we kept nothing from their Ambassador, and that by the Delay, and the Senate's not making an Answer to what I proposed, I could not but judge that to be their Intention. That as I wished well to this State, I hoped I should find my self deceived. He excused the Delay, upon the Absence of the Senators in the last Month. He asked me whether I had any thing further to say, in relation to the King of *Prussia*, giving him the Title of Elector of *Brandenbourg*. I told him that I thought I had said all that was necessary on such a Subject. Then he would have begun about Trade; but I told him that depended so much on the Measures the Republick would take, and that in case they were such as the Queen did desire, that matter would easily be adjusted. That it was necessary for me to know first their Resolution. We did nevertheless discourse in general about Trade, and I found he thought that if our Merchants were obliged to load their Oil from hence, it might be for the mutual Good, which some Merchants I have talked with are of opinion will be for our Interest. He mentioned the Four per Cent. Duty on their Currans in *Venetian* Ships, which was an Imposition laid on in *England*, some few Years ago. I told him all these things would have a proper time to be considered. That I would think of putting what I proposed in writing, but hoped to hear from him the Resolution of the Senate on what was of much more Consequence, or in case they had any thing to propose to that end, I was ready to receive it. He assured me, that he would faithfully report what I had said, and that he would let me know, when he could meet me. He asked me how long I thought of staying here, which I said I could not tell, for that depended on the Measures that would be taken here. The Conference lasted about two Hours, and all I can make of it, was to be informed, and to find out whether I had any Orders about the re-establishing the Duke of *Mantua*, or tending to remove the *German* Garrison thence; as also if there were some Projects on foot, for the joining the *Venetian* Troops to the *English*, under a General of the Queen, in order, as I suppose they mean here, to preserve the Ballance of Power in *Italy*; for by his Questions, they must have some such meaning. I cannot tell whether any thing of this nature has been proposed to your Lordship. I do not know what Measures the Queen would keep with this State, else the shewing them how they will be entirely abandon'd, is the only way to bring them to reason. I forgot to tell you, that he took notice how unusual any Deputation of this kind was, as also that the Senate had made that Distinction of appointing one of the highest Rank in their Government. I believe they do not well know what to do, and how to get rid of the *Germans*; and as there is a Discourse of a Treaty of Partition, which I suppose there is no ground for, they are under many Difficulties. I have been the more particular, that so your Lordship may judge of the Methods here. All that has passed must be laid before the Senate, and then I may hear of them again. I do know that the *Venetian* Ambassador at *Vienna*, has writ to this State, that a Great Minister there told him, that the

Emperor and his Ministers have reason to be jealous of the *English* and *Dutch*. That they imposed what Laws they pleased on the Emperor, but that he was now resolved to do what was most for his Interest, and to that end there was a secret Negotiation on foot between him and *France*. This he mentioned under the greatest Assurance of Secrecy. I can assure your Lordship that he has writ this, but I know that they often impose upon him at that Court. I thought it proper to give you this Notice, that so you may judge by other Ways, whether it is probable: but I must desire you, for the Reason formerly mentioned, not to take notice of it to Monsieur *Cornaro*. I must confess that I shall have my Suspicions, in case Prince *Eugene* does not go to *Spain*; for I know so much, that at *Vienna* they had rather abandon *Spain* than *Naples* and *Sicily*: neither do I find that they make much haste in sending the Queen of *Spain* thither. I hear they have seized there Count *Comazzi*, and all his Papers. He is a Subject of the Duke of *Mantua*, but in the Service of the Emperor. He has been here, on pretence of his own private Affairs; but he has been negotiating with the Duke. On the day of my Entry, when every body was admitted into my House, he made me a Compliment, and would have enter'd into that Affair: but as I could not tell what Construction he might have made, so I turned the Discourse. His Proceedings have given great Jealousy to the Ministers of the Duke of *Savoy*, which may possibly be the reason of his Confinement at his Return. I have just now had a Complaint from the College, of the Proceedings of the *Hessians* in this State, which I have inclosed. I shall do all I can in it: but I am informed that the General is with the Horse in the *Tyrol*, and that the Foot are marching as fast as they can out of *Italy*, to their own Country. I have the Honour of your Lordship's of the 31st of *October*, when you wanted four Posts. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Message from the College, sent the 2d of *December* 1707, contained in Substance, That in *September* of 1706, the *Hessians* had a disadvantageous Rencontre with the *French*, in the Country of *Medola*, and were obliged to abandon part of their Baggage, and that it was then without any Foundation alledged that the *Venetian* Subjects of *Pozzolinga* had profited by this, and were obliged to make Restitution and Satisfaction. When our General in the *Terra Firma* had thought he had by strong Reasons convinced them of the contrary, we have now understood, that a Colonel of the Grenadiers had, by order of the General *Spiegel*, called before him the *Syndic* of *Pozzolinga*, under the pretence of not only obliging him to the Restitution of the Spoils, but also with Threats to invade the neighbouring Country. Among the many Reasons, they say that a few Hours after the Action several *French* Squadrons came into *Pozzolinga*, and searched diligently all the Houses, &c. and took even many Things from the poor Country-People themselves. That it is not to be imagined that the *French*, who were there for several Months after, would leave any thing of their Enemies in the hands of the People. They desire therefore that his Excellency would by his Credit remove these Complaints, by turning the said General and his Troops from such unjust Designs, that so they might not be obliged to make use of Force in the Defence of their Subjects; which would be the more displeasing to them, because these Troops are in the Pay of Her *Britannick* Majesty, for whom the Publick has so great a Regard, &c.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Bearne, December 4. 1707.

IT is some time since I had the Honour of writing to your Lordship, having had nothing further, till now, to acquaint you with from *Neufchatel*, unless I should trouble you with an Account of Ceremonies. The Embassy from *Bearne* came whilst I was at *Neufchatel*, to acknowledge the King of *Prussia*, and to compliment Count *Metternich*, who received them with great Civility, and regaled them very splendidly. The *French* continuing still to threaten that Country

Country with an Invasion, and a good number of Troops being actually arrived in *Franche Comté* to take their Winter-quarters, Count *Metternich* thought it necessary to put the Country in the best Posture of Defence he could; and therefore has form'd a Regiment of 1200 Men drawn out of the Militia, with experienc'd Officers at the head of them, which he is sending to the Frontiers to guard the Passages. But because their chief Support must come from the Canton of *Bearne*; before their Ambassadors left *Neufchatel*, he demanded three Points of their Masters in a Memorial, which has been since under Deliberation here. 1. That the Canton of *Bearne* would give him 200 Men to send upon the Frontiers, which may serve as Safe-Guards to the Country, and as a public Declaration, that they take it under their Protection. 2. That they give Orders to their Militia Troops in the Neighbourhood, to march without delay to the Succour of *Neufchatel*, whenever they shall see their Beacons fired. And, 3. That when these Dispositions are made and executed, the Canton would send a Deputation to Mr. de *Puisieux*, to know whether the *French* King is willing, that the Country of *Neufchatel* shall remain in Neutrality with him, or not, and obtain a definitive Answer thereupon. These

three Points being expressly contain'd in the Alliances and Treaty of *Conboursoise*, between *Bearne* and *Neufchatel*. This Canton has complied with them, in spite of the Endeavours of the *French* Party to the contrary, and has agreed to assemble a Diet of the Protestant Cantons. to be held the 11th Instant, in order to take proper Measures for the further Security of *Neufchatel*, and the Peace of *Switzerland*. The two Villages of *Cressier* and *Landeron*, inhabited by about 150 *Roman* Catholicks, who were unwilling to take the Oath of Fidelity to his *Prussian* Majesty, have been forc'd to submit to a Body of 500 Militia, which Count *Metternich* sent to those two Places, and have since taken the Oath required of them. I return your Excellency

my most humble Thanks, for the Honour of your Letter of the 19th past, and wish you all sort of Success in your Negotiations. The Measures that we have engaged the Canton of *Bearne* in, for the Security of *Neufchatel*, will probably produce a Treaty of Neutrality between it and *France*, which tho' I think the Allies ought not to press, yet it cannot be avoided, especially since the King of *Prussia* desires it so earnestly. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Brussels, December 5. 1707.

HER Majesty having been pleas'd to appoint me her Envoy-Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for the Affairs of these Provinces, and of the *Hague*, I have the Honour to acquaint your Excellency therewith, and to assure you, that I shall execute with a great deal of Pleasure, that part of my Instructions of corresponding with you; and you will give me leave to assure your Excellency of my particular Respect and at the same time, acquaint you with how great a Satisfaction, I shall always receive the Honour of your Commands, and that I am, &c. W. CADOGAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, December 9. 1707.

I find by your Lordship's of *November 7. O. S.* that you had received several of my Letters, the last of the 28th of *October, N. S.* I am very glad the Queen approves of what I have done. We have had of late so much ill News, that I did not think fit to make any further Step, to bring this State to a positive Answer, so that all things stand as they did when I writ last. I find they are here desirous of seeing the Opening of the Parliament, that so they may judge whether their Advices from *France*, &c. be true, and your Lordship cannot imagine what Notions they have, that the Allies are a going to break, and that several of them are a making Terms with *France*, &c. They write from *Naples*, that a thousand Foot were embarked there, under the Command of

of General *Wetzel*, and that it is thought they are designed for several Ports on the Coast of *Tuscany*, that belong to *Spain*. Mr. *Dilks* is arrived at *Leghorn* with our Squadron, and they say he will soon sail for *Catalonia*. I hear that Count *Cifuentes* is on board our Fleet, and he is declared Viceroy of *Sardinia*, so that it is possible that these Troops are designed for that Place. I am glad they think of doing something, and that they do not leave their Troops idle at *Naples*. They have began there to sell the Estate of the Prince of *Santo Buono*, who is King *Philip's* Ambassador here, and whose Estate is very considerable. They sell also that of the Duke of *Atri*, who defended *Pescara*, and who is come to *Rome*, on his way to *France*. I do not trouble you with several Memorials of small moment, and the Answers I receive in relation to particular Ships, and the Concerns of the Merchants, in which I find the Republick very ready to do what I desire. We have had lately here the *Rain-Galley* from *Bristol*. As soon as the Seamen heard that the Ship was bound for *London*, they deserted her; and the reason they gave was, that as soon as they should be arrived there, they should be press'd into the Queen's Service. As many as I could get to me, I prevailed with to return to their Ship; but ten of them made their Escape, before I could get them taken up by the Form of the Government, and they are gone to *Leghorn*. I have writ to the Consul there, and desired him to put them on board some of the Men of War, as soon as he finds them. Had I not prevailed with the rest, the Ship must have lost its Voyage: but now by the help of some *Venetians*, she may get home. I have done Monsieur *Cornaro* Justice, in the matter about the Court of *Vienna*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Nov. 28. 1707. O.S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 4th, 11th and 18th of November, N. S. with the Copy of your Memorial, which I have laid before her Majesty, who does intirely approve of what your Lordship has done in that Matter. I am sorry to find there is so little Prospect of their entering into any reasonable Measures with the Allies, tho' I must own I never did expect much better from them, what Measures will be proper to be taken upon this, will be impossible to judge, till we see their Answer to your Memorial in form. As to what relates to a Treaty of Commerce, I don't believe much even in that is to be expected from them, considering the Disposition they are in: however, the Merchants here press that Matter so much, that one must try what can be done; and I hope in a Post or two to send you the Draught prepared. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

I could not perceive that your Letter of the 18th had been opened.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Bearne, Dec. 11. 1707.

THE Resolutions which I inform'd your Lordship were taken by this Canton, for the Support and Defence of *Neufchatel*, have been since put in Execution. The 200 Men to be posted upon the Frontiers are march'd thither. Orders are given to several Regiments to march to the Succour of *Neufchatel*, whenever they shall see the Signals of that Country on fire, and the Deputies of the Protestant Cantons are to meet to-morrow at a place called *Langenthal*, about ten Leagues off, to concert Measures for the further Security of that Country. It is suppos'd they will agree to send a Deputation about that Business from thence, to the *French* Ambassador, which will begin a Negotiation that will probably end in a Neutrality between *France*, and the County of *Neufchatel*. It does not appear that *France* has any Design of committing Hostilities against it for many Reasons; but if it had, the great Quantity of Snow that has fallen, has made it almost impracticable, tho' there were never so great an Inclination to it.

Two Days ago arrived here, three

three Deputies from *Neufchatel*, to return the Compliment this Canton made Count *Metternich*, by the solemn Deputation it sent thither. Yesterday they had their Audience, and to-day they set out with the *Bearne* Deputies, to be present at the Deliberations of the Diet. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Dec. 16. 1707.

I Have had another Conference with the Procurator *Giustiniani*, who told me that the Senate had received, with great Esteem, the Invitation of her Majesty into the Grand Alliance, and the good Disposition I had expressed, in her Name, towards this Republick. That they had considered that matter fully; and that he had three Points to impart to me. 1. That the Propositions were general. 2. That they did not know the Intention of the rest of the Allies; and lastly, that the Designs of the *Turks* against this State, particularly the *Morea*, appeared every day more, by the Advices they had received. That he left it to my Prudence to represent this to her Majesty, and hoped it would have its due Weight, when she reflected on the Difficulty they were under. He then enlarged farther, by shewing that the first Proposition was, that no Treaty of Peace should be made without their Participation, and that their Interest was to be considered upon the same foot, with the rest of the Allies; that these Things were general, and nothing was mentioned in particular, as to this State. That as to the second, they had some reason to think that Matter was not very clear, by the Propositions the Queen's Minister had made at *Vienna*, and the Reception it met with. That as to the last, besides their own Advices, their Ambassador at that Court had sent them a Copy of a Letter, which the Queen's Envoy had received from *Constantinople*, and had imparted to him, which shews that their Suspicions were not ill-grounded. This was what he was directed by the Senate to acquaint me with. I returned him his Compliments, shewing him also that I thought the Senate could not but be convinced that the Intentions of the Queen were very sincere, and that she could have no other Design by the Proposals I had made in her Name, but what would certainly conduce to their Interest and Advantage. That I expected, upon what I had said to him the last time, to have found that they would have thought it so; but that I would still endeavour to shew him that the Queen had gone a great way. That the Propositions were not, when considered with a Disposition of coming into such Measures, so general as I found they did seem to the Senate. That in them there was included a mutual Defence of each other, with all the Advantages that an Alliance so extensive, in which the greatest Part of *Europe* is concerned, can produce; which is to subsist not only during this present War, but also whenever there is a Peace. That whenever that did happen, this State would have an equal share in adjusting the Conditions, with an Assurance, that in whatever related to their particular Interest, care should be taken to their Satisfaction. That I had the last time explained further to him, that the Queen would look upon that Matter as her own, and would consider it as such. That as I had, so I did again desire to know, what were those Advantages in particular to this State, they seemed to expect, that so Endeavours might be used to accommodate them; having already assured him, that whatever was in the Queen's power, she was ready to do. That as to the second, I had also acquainted him, that I made those Propositions, not only in the Queen's Name, but also in that of the Allies, which the Queen did promise to engage for. That what had passed at *Vienna*, shewed plainly that she had what related to *Mantua* in her Thoughts, if that was what this State desired. How it was received there, might possibly be occasioned from an opinion they have, that there is no Disposition here, of coming into Measures with the Allies. That as to the last, in relation to the *Turks*, I believed I had as fresh Advices from our Ambassador there as any had come, my Letters being of the 27th of *October* last; which was an Answer to what I desired to know, whether the *Turks* had any Design of invading the *Morea*, or any part

belonging to this State, or what grounds there were to believe it. To which the *English* Ambassador writes, that their Ambassador had, ever since he was in that Country, entertained great Umbrages, and Jealousies; but that it did not appear to him that their present Fears had any Grounds: that it was above a twelve Month, since the *Turks* sent any Supplies of Ammunition to their Places on the *Venetian* Frontiers, which before were wholly unprovided; and their Stores are now so slender in *Negroponte* and *Lepanto*, and elsewhere, besides there are so few Troops in those Parts, that it is not possible they should give any real Alarm. That if he pleased I would send him a Copy of my Letter, which I believed was of a later Date, than what he mentioned. That if it was otherwise, I could not but think it would be a mean to prevent any Design of that sort, when the *Turks* once knew that this Republick was engaged in an Alliance with the Queen. That her Mediation has had, on several Occasions, a good Effect, and I was persuaded it would still have. That to me it did seem, by what he has been directed to acquaint me with, that there was no real Disposition in the Senate, almost on any Terms; else I should have thought to have heard some Propositions from them, which was my View in having these Conferences, that, by treating, we might have come to a right Understanding. I found he was now more restrain'd in his Commission; and upon my saying so, he said that he had no Power to treat. That he could wish I could see the Report he had made of the last Conference, and that then I should be satisfied he had done his part. That there had been several long Debates, and, by what fell from him, there were a great many Senators for coming into those Measures, and then he repeated to me again, the three Points; and this was all he was directed to say. When I found that, I told him that what I should further say, would be as from my self, and desired that he would do the same thing; and that I wished this State so well, that I was sorry to find their Measures quite otherwise than I had imagin'd. We discoursed afterwards for above an Hour, and, as cautious as he was, I perceived they have Views and Notions different from what we shall ever think our Interest, and I am apt to think that they were in hopes I might have had some Instructions tending to a Peace; as some Treaty of Partition, a Neutrality in *Italy*, the re-establishing of the Duke of *Mantua*, the Duke of *Anjou's* having *Naples* and *Sicily*, the Retreat of the *Germans* out of *Italy*, &c. But all the Steps which I have made, and the Queen's Speech, and the Addresses of the House of Commons, confirming what I have all along told them, their sole endeavours are now to get out of this Matter without disobliging the Queen. I found that Monsieur *Giustiniani* was for entering upon the Treaty of Commerce, and said that it was what Monsieur *Cornaro* had often mentioned. I told him it was very true, that the two Points I had proposed in the College, were an Alliance and a Treaty of Commerce; but that I did not take the latter to be of that consequence. Your Lordship knows a very good Reason, why I cannot proceed if I thought it proper, having as yet no Instructions. After all this Discourse, he said that he was directed to let me know that the Senate had all the desire imaginable, to concur with the Queen in relation to the King of *Prussia*, and that they had it under their Consideration, and would acquaint me with what they should resolve. We parted with that Agreement, that whenever he had any Directions from the Senate, he would impart them to me, as I would my Directions to him. I do not doubt but they send Directions to Mr. *Cornaro*, by this Post. I have been the more particular, that so your Lordship may understand the better, what he is directed to say: but I do know that there is nothing to be done, they being come to a Resolution of not entering into the Alliance, on any account. I do know also, that since this Conference, Mr. *Mocenigo*, and another Nobleman, called *Garzoni*, (the first of which is going soon into *France*) have met the *French* Ambassador privately. The best Construction that can be made of it, is, that they are amusing him; but it may also be suspected, that there is too good an Understanding between them. Three thousand of the Imperial Troops have

have entered the Pope's State, and are going for *Naples*. They have Orders for the raising 15000 Men in that Kingdom, and some of them are designed for *Spain*, which is our great Concern, as it is plain that theirs is *Naples* and *Sicily*. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, December 24. 1707.

I Have received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 2d. I can assure your Excellency, that hitherto there are no Proposals of Peace made here, nor can they imagine *France* would make any at present: for proposing to have the Duke of *Anjou* in *Spain*, is proposing nothing, since they are pretty well convinced here, as well as in *England*, of the Necessity of continuing the War till the *French* Generation be removed from *Spain*. *Helvetius* is returning hither to perform the perfect Cure of Monsieur *Voorschoten*, Son-in-Law to my Lord *Portland*, and he is expected this Week. Whether he has any particular Commission, we know nothing of as yet. If there be any thing, your Excellency shall be informed of it. I am, &c.

J.A. DAYROLLE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, December 25. 1707.

THE Diet of *Langenthal* is ended, and the Deputies are returned home. Before it broke up, a Deputation was sent to the *French* Ambassador at *Soleurre*, with a Representation containing in Substance, That the Evangelick Cantons were very sorry to find that the King of *France* continu'd not only ill satisfied with the Decision of the Affair of *Neufchatel*, but that he seemed resolved to punish the County for the Sentence lately given by the Tribunal there, whose Sovereignty he had himself acknowledg'd: That the Canton of *Berne*, by virtue of its Alliance of *Conbourgeoisie* with *Neufchatel*, was obliged to assist it in case of Necessity, and that *Neufchatel* having been acknowledged for above three Ages to be a part of *Switzerland*, and particularly by *France* in the Treaty of 1663, the Peace of that Country could not be troubled without disturbing that of all the *Helvetick* Body; That therefore they hoped his Majesty would be pleas'd to take off the late Interdiction of Commerce between *France* and the Counties of *Neufchatel* and *Valengin*, and let them remain in Peace, without which they were apprehensive, that great Troubles would arise in *Switzerland*. To which the Ambassador replied, That he did not yet know the Intention of his Majesty, upon the Subject of *Neufchatel*; but he could assure them, that in case the King his Master should think fit to punish those of *Neufchatel*, for the crying Injustice (as he terms it) they had done to his Subjects, his Majesty did not intend thereby to alarm any of the Cantons, or disturb the Peace of their Country: that in the mean time he would send their Memorial to Court, and let them know his Majesty's Mind upon it. This dry and uncertain Answer of the *French* Ambassador, makes Count *Metternich* stand upon his Guard. He has made a fresh Demand of 2000 Men of this Canton, for the Defence of *Neufchatel*, and we hope in two days time, this Business will be dispatched to his Satisfaction. The *Dutch* Minister and I have back'd his Demand with a Memorial, to encourage them to take speedy and effectual Measures, for the Preservation of *Neufchatel* and all *Switzerland* in this critical Juncture, and we hope in time to see things have their desired Effect. We have suspected Monsieur *de Puisieux* for some time, of concealing from the Court the Offers of Neutrality, which the King of *Prussia* has made for the Countries of *Neufchatel*, and we are now confirm'd in the Suspicion by a Letter receiv'd from a private Hand at *Paris*, who spoke to Monsieur *de Torcy* about it, and found him surprized and pleased with the Proposition; adding, that he does not doubt but the Court will come into it, and believes the *French* only made Preparations of War on the

the Frontiers of *Neufchatel* for their Defence, upon a Presumption the Allies designed to make use of that Country to invade *Franche Comté* with an Army this Spring. We shall soon see what will be the Issue of that Affair; if no Neutrality be settled, the Allies have a fine Game to play on that side. I give your Lordship my most humble Thanks, for your Letter of the 20th Instant; and am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Dec. 30. 1707.

I find by your Lordship's of *November* 28. O. S. that you had received all mine, as far as to the 18th, N. S. By this time others will have come to your hands, which will shew plainly that they will here come into no Measures that may engage them in a War; I having in both the Conferences pres'd that the Senate would let me know what it was they desired, to induce them to embrace the Propositions I had made. I have made it my endeavours to know the Number in the Senate, when these Propositions came in debate; and I do find that in the Ballottation there were above two to one for keeping to the Neutrality; and I have learned since, that they are come to a Resolution not to admit of any Conferences on that Subject. I must desire your Lordship not to let Monsieur *Cornaro* know this; for he will write it immediately hither: but it is certainly true, and I shall find it so. I am very well satisfy'd, that they have not above Ten Thousand Men regular Troops in the *Terra Firma*; and those they have, are in a very ill condition. Monsieur *Mocenigo*, who goes for *France*, has taken his leave of the Republick; and the Prince *Santo Buono*, Ambassador from the Duke of *Anjou*, is now received here in the same manner as others. These publick Steps shew sufficiently their Intentions. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Dec. 23. 1707. O. S.

I Am honoured with your Lordship's Letters of *November* 25, *December* 2, and the 9th and the 16th, N. S. I was in hopes, when I heard they had made such a Step as the appointing the Procurator *Justiniani* to confer with your Lordship, which is so unusual a thing for them to do, that they had intended to hearken, in some degree at least, to the Proposals you had made in the Queen's Name; but I am sorry to find by your Letter, that all *Justiniani* has said to you, seems to be nothing but a Put-off. I must at the same time acquaint your Lordship, that her Majesty does approve of every Step you have taken in this Affair. Perhaps they may flatter themselves with the Stories the *French* tell them, as if there was a Disposition here towards a Peace or a Partition: but the inclosed Address, presented this Day by both Houses, I hope, will convince them, and the whole World to the contrary, as well as the Resolution of the House of Commons for 500,000 Pounds, for an Augmentation for *Spain*, and the Army in *Italy* under the Command of the Duke of *Savoy*.

As to the Treaty of Commerce, I have at last got a Draught of it, and as soon as it has been laid before a Committee of Lords of the Council, for their Approbation, it shall be transmitted to your Lordship. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, January 7. 1708.

WE have the Count *Gallas* here still. He will set out on his Journey for *London* next Week; and to enable him to discourse with the Ministers there on the Affairs of the Duke of *Savoy*, he has been called to a Conference at the Prince of *Salme's*, where they gave him their Sense of what they can and ought to do for H. R. H. which, by what I can learn of Messieurs *Tarini* and *Mellarade*, who are both still here, is not what will fully satisfy their

Master.

Master. This Evening Count *Gallas* is at Prince *Eugene's*, where the Affairs of King *Charles* are to be under Debate. I had Orders from *Britain*, to urge their sending Prince *Eugene* to *Spain*, and also a Letter writ by the Queen to the Emperor, recommending the same as a Matter of the greatest Consequence; but to no purpose. Prince *Eugene* is to be at hand to defend them, in case of need, against the *Turks*, and to secure them from any future Insults of the *Swede*, who has demanded the like Liberty for the Reformed to exercise their Religion in *Silesia*, as, by Count *Wratislaw's* Convention at *Alt Ranstad*, the *Lutherans* are to enjoy. Count *Guido* of *Staremburg* is declared General for *Spain*, without consulting *Britain* or *Holland*, whether they will put their Troops under his Command. I have writ my Thoughts pretty freely upon these Practices, and Monsieur *Bruyninx* has done the same. Prince *Eugene* has a Commission to act as the Emperor's Lieutenant-General, which but for the Duke of *Savoy* he had had last Year; the Emperor's Lieutenant-General being to command all who may serve with him. I don't know how the Elector of *Hanover* will relish the being commanded by Prince *Eugene*, I believe he will not submit to it; but they must rather let the Commission lay dormant this next Summer. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

Extract of the Earl of MANCHESTER's Letter to the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

Venice, Jan. 13. 1708.

ALL I can add, is, that King *Charles* has lately let the Emperor know that he will never abandon *Spain*, whatever happens. He is not in the least satisfied with the Court of *Vienna*. His whole Dependance there, is on the Empress's Dowager. I could not have believed, had I not seen it, that Men could act so contrary to their own Interest. But I fear the Misfortune is, that the Publick is sacrificed to private and particular Ends, and it is well if we do not find it too much so at last.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 2, 1708.

I Take the liberty to recommend to your Excellency's Protection, the Affairs of Mr. *Carré*, a Merchant of *Corke*, in relation to a Ship of his, called the *Joseph-Galley*, which has been taken in a *Venetian* Port, by a *French* Man of War, was afterwards restored by the *French* to the *Venetians*, yet no Satisfaction has been made to the said *Carré*. The inclosed Case will more fully inform you of the Circumstances of the Fact, and of his Desires; to which I refer your Excellency. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, January 15. 1708.

UPON the Report of the Deputies that were sent to view the Frontiers of *Neufchatel*, on the *Franche Comté* side, the Great Council here gave Orders immediately to the 4000 Men, that were upon the *Berne* Frontiers on the *Neufchatel* side, to enter that Country; since which they are all marched thither, and I hope by this time are upon the Frontiers of *Franche Comté*, as well as the whole Militia of *Neufchatel*, which all together make about 10,000 Men in Arms, to defend that Country, furnished with ten Field-Pieces, and the necessary Ammunition, besides all other Utensils of War, which this Canton has abundantly supplied. The whole is commanded by Major General *Tscharnier* a *Bernois*, who lately quitted the *Dutch* Service, and has the Reputation of a good Officer. He is accompanied by two Deputies, like those of the States-General, who are to assist at all the Deliberations of the Council of War, so that our little Army seems to be as compleat and good as Militia Troops can be. Mr. *de Puisieux* got the Diet called by his Credit with Burgo-master *Escher* of *Zurich*, who surpriz'd this Canton in the Business, and convoked it against our Will and Design. We shall soon know what passes there;

however I flatter my self, it will end like most others, without coming to any Resolution upon the Matters before them. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, January 22. 1708.

THE French King having written a short Letter to this Canton, to tell them, that he had given his Ambassador Orders to signify his Answer, to that which they writ to him about the Business of *Neufchatel*, the Canton sent Orders to their Deputies at the Diet at *Baden*, to wait upon Mr. *de Pui-sieux*, (who is there also) to know what it was; which they having accordingly done, he gave them for Answer an Extract of his Instructions upon that Affair, containing in Substance, that he was to declare to the Diet, that tho' the King his Master should have been inclined to grant a Neutrality to *Neufchatel*, in Consideration of the Cantons, yet he could not now consent to it, after the Steps the Canton of *Berne* had made, and the Reports that his Enemies had industriously spread of their Design of penetrating into *France*, by that Passage; that the Motions of the French Troops in *Franche Comté*, ought not to alarm the Cantons, since he was persuaded they intended to keep their Alliances with *France*, and would not defend the Injustice committed at *Neufchatel*, in favour of the Elector of *Brandenbourg*: That he was so well satisfied of their Truth and Sincerity, and so ready to give them, upon all Occasions, Marks of his Favour, that he promis'd to let *Neufchatel* remain in a perfect Neutrality, if the Cantons would engage to make the Ministers and Officers of the Elector of *Brandenbourg* quit that Country, and keep it in Sequestration till a General Peace be made, when they should agree upon an impartial Tribunal to judge of the Rights of the several Pretenders to that Sovereignty. This ridiculous Proposition has not yet been debated in the Diet, so we don't know how it will be receiv'd, or what Effects it will produce; but one may say, it is such as cannot with any Colour of Justice be hearkened to by any of them. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

January 27. 1708.

THE Letters from *England* are come in so late, that I have but just time to acknowledge your Lordship's of *December 23*, and I find you were made acquainted by my Letter of the 16th, that I do not expect they will alter their Measures here, and they will be glad if I say nothing to them; and, till I have your Orders, I know not what to say. I did imagine that Monsieur *Cornaro* might have made some Proposals. They will here take no part on either side, till they see the Success of the next Campaign in *Spain*. I am glad that both Houses of Parliament have taken notice of the sending Prince *Eugene* into *Spain*. If any thing will prevail with the Court of *Vienna*, I think that should; but I am far from thinking that it will. Mr. *Stanhope* is just come here, and will make what haste he can for *England*. He is concerned at Prince *Eugene's* not going for *Spain*, and will inform your Lordship of the Necessity of it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 16. 1708. O.S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's of the 16th Instant, N. S. I am entirely of your Opinion, that nothing is to be expected from the Republick, at least as to the entering into the Alliance; nor much, I fear, as to the Affair of Commerce: however, that nothing may be wanting on the Queen's part, I am commanded to send your Lordship the inclosed Copy of a Draught of a Treaty of Commerce, which the Merchants here have prepared. I believe there are some things in it which will not be very easy to obtain, but your Lordship

Lordship will be the best Judge of that, when you have try'd their Inclination.
I am, &c. SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, January 28. 1708.

YOUR Excellency does doubtless know, that they have kept here for a very long time, in a very rough Imprisonment, the Person of Signor Comazzi, a Man of Merit and of great Erudition, for having freely talked for the Duke of Mantua, for having wrote to him, and for having been with him at Venice; tho' all this was done with leave, and the knowledge of some of the first Ministers of this Court. There is also a likelihood that he will be soon set at liberty and cleared. Nevertheless, as some have let fall their Suspicion on your Excellency, as if you had contributed to his Misfortune, I have maintained that this was not likely, and that I could not believe it: and I thought I ought to send to Y. E. the here inclosed Note of Signor Comazzi, which he wrote to some of his Friends on that Subject.

We can by no means succeed to make P. Eugene go into Spain, and H. I. M. alledges Reasons for this, that seem to have some weight; but the Emperor designs to send thither the Count Guido of Staremberg, who is likewise a good General. I doubt not but Sir Philip Meadows sends you an account of Affairs here, &c.
I am, &c.

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, January 29. 1708.

AS to the Affair of Neufchatel, the Diet is yet come to no Resolution upon Monsieur de Puisieux's Proposal of sequestering it into the hands of the 13 Cantons, tho' by what appears hitherto, we have no reason to fear the Majority will give into it. The Deputies of Berne have openly declared that their Canton will defend that Country with their utmost Force, and that they can hearken to no Expedient, that may encroach upon its Sovereignty; but are ready to enter into a Treaty of Neutrality for it, of which they offer to be Guarantees. The Deputies of all the other Protestant Cantons do adhere to them, but the Catholics have not yet declared their Opinion about the Sequestration, upon pretence that a matter of such Importance, requires a longer Consideration. However, as far as we can judge by Appearances, there are but three of them, viz. Solleurre, Lucerne, and Fribourg, that are for it. The others, in hopes that Monsieur de Puisieux would propose more moderate Expedients, pressed the Deputies of Berne, to confer with him a second time, to represent the Unreasonableness of the Sequestration, and the Obligations they lay under of defending that Country, in case it were attack'd; which they accordingly did, but received much the same Answer as before, containing in Substance, that his Master's Proposal of sequestering that Country, was a convincing Proof of his great Desire to preserve the Peace of Switzerland, and his Alliances with it; that he had no Orders to receive any other Proposals about that Matter, yet he wished the Diet in general could find out any Expedient that might be agreeable to all Parties, and save the Rights of the French Pretenders; that if they could think of any such, he would send it to Court, and second it with his best Offices, provided the Proposal came from all the Cantons in general, and not from any particular one only; that he wished the Diet would not separate without ending this Business, for if it did, it would not be in his power to hinder the Marshal of Villars from executing the Orders he had about it. This Answer was delivered in writing to the Diet, on the 24th Instant: but we do not yet know what Effects it has produced, or if any Resolutions are yet taken upon it. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, February 3. 1708.

I Can assure your Lordship, that there is no sort of Disposition here, of entering into the Grand Alliance on any account, tho' Mantua was to be delivered

delivered into their hands. This I take to proceed from the ill State they are in, knowing so well their own Weakness, that they must endeavour to keep well with all, if it is possible. What I should propose, and what I think to be for the Dignity of the Queen, is, That as the Propositions were entirely for their Service and Security, therefore, since they did not understand it so, I had Orders to take no more notice of that Matter, and so propose to them what relates to Trade. I am of opinion, they will endeavour to amuse me also in that Matter, and if I have no Directions, after some reasonable time, to acquaint them that I have Orders to return home, I shall never be able to do any thing. I have not yet had any Answer about the King of *Prussia*, but in general Words, tho I have pressed it. The *French* Ambassador has been several times at the College, about their sending an Ambassador to the Duke of *Anjou*. He has at last presented a Letter from the *French* King, with a full Power to stipulate with this State, that their Ambassador shall be received there, as any Ambassadors of the Crowned Heads are, which Ceremonial they have not at present. This pleases their Vanity; but I cannot think nevertheless, that they dare to send one, and they will find some way to evade it. I have been again solicited by the Duke of *Mantua*, who presses to meet me, or he will send a Person to discourse with me, making great Professions of Respect for the Queen. I could not avoid assuring him, that I would acquaint your Lordship with it, but that I thought it was a very improper time at present to make any Step of that nature, and that unless I had Orders, he must excuse me. The Duke of *Mirandola* has desired the same thing, and I have prevented his coming to me. The Duke of *Modena* hopes to have his State, at a General Peace, for what he has suffered. I have received your Lordship's of the 2d of *January* O. S. wherein you recommend the Case of Mr. *Carré*, which I shall not fail to mind. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Barcelona, February 4. 1708.

I Am honoured with your Lordship's of the 29th of *November*, and I have delivered the Memorial inclosed to the King, having first engaged the Duke de *Moles* in the Affair, which I hope will succeed to your Lordship's Satisfaction; for the Duke says, he knows the Gentleman; and since he had the good Fortune of being recommended by your Lordship, he could not fail of the little Interest I have here. This not being the Season for Action, we have nothing of greater Importance to acquaint your Lordship with, than the Arrival of Part of those Forces, from *Italy* we have so long expected; but our Fleet wanting both Stores and Provisions, cannot return to fetch the rest, till they have been at *Lisbon* to victual and refit, which I fear will require some time, and may prove of ill Consequence, unless they are so happy as to meet a Squadron, either in their Passage thither, or in *Portugal*, design'd to relieve them.

I take the Opportunity of this Fleet to go for *Lisbon*, with the Marquis *das Minas*, and from thence, I hope, shortly after for *England*. But where-ever I am, I shall always be proud to receive your Lordship's Commands, being with great Respect, &c.

GALLWAY.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, February 5. 1708.

SINCE my last, the Diet at *Baden* has been taken up, with forming several Projects of a Neutrality for the Principality of *Neufchatel*. The Catholicks would have such a one as should save the Rights of the *French* Pretenders, and the Protestants insist upon one without any Restrictions, according to their first Instructions, from which the Deputies of this Canton have lately received Orders not to depart: the Council here disapproving of any other Project, but what shall settle a simple, and absolute Neutrality, without any Conditions or Limitations whatsoever.

Your Excellency sees we are still

still in the same Uncertainty, as to the Issue of the Diet, and the real Designs of the *French*. I must confess I can scarce believe they will venture to attack *Neufchatel*. If they should, I have Orders to treat, in conjunction with the Ministers of *Prussia* and *Holland*, for maintaining a good Body of Troops in that Country; and when we have once got them on foot, we may chance to make the *French* repent of their Folly. Yesterday I received the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 21st inst. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, February 12. 1708.

IN my last, I gave your Lordship an account, that the Diet of *Baden* was taken up with forming several Projects of a Neutrality, since which it has made such Steps towards one, as will probably bring it about. The Catholick and Protestant Deputies after long Debates, have at last unanimously agreed upon a Representation to Mr. *de Puisieux* upon that Business; wherein the former would fain have inserted a Clause to save the Rights of the *French* Pretenders: but finding the latter persisted to oppose it, as a Matter that did no way fall under their Cognizance, they at last contented themselves with inserting a Reserve of every body's Right, declaring that by this Neutrality they did not pretend to give or take any right to or from any Pretender, but to leave each Person's Claim in the State they found it at present, and only provide for the Peace and Security of the Country, till the General Peace might settle it upon a sure foot. This Representation was made to the *French* Ambassador, who by his Answer seems to desire the Neutrality more than we do; for tho' he tells them that he had no Orders to negotiate with them, upon any other head, than that of the Sequestration, yet since their Proposition was agreed to by all the Deputies in general, he would send it to Court, when they should let him know what Assurances they pretended to offer his Majesty, for the exact Observation of Neutrality, as also for that of the Treaty of a perpetual Peace, and of the Neutrality for *Suisseland*, made in 1702.

To encourage this Canton to proceed with more Vigour, I have given them a Memorial, upon my late Orders from her Majesty, to offer them Assistance, in case *Neufchatel* were attack'd, which has been read in the General Council, and I hear has produc'd a good Effect.

When this Representation drawn up at the Diet, and made to the *French* Ambassador, came to be considered here, it was not approved of, because they ask the Neutrality of the *French* King, as a Matter of Favour, and not of Right, which if so, he may revoke at pleasure; therefore they have sent Orders to their Deputies two days ago, absolutely to insist upon *Neufchatel's* being declared a part of the *Helvetick* Body, and as such to be intitled to the Neutrality the rest enjoys, by virtue of the perpetual Alliance with *France*, renewed in 1663. and of the Treaty of Neutrality made in 1702. Besides which, they have ordered their Deputies to require the same Security against any Invasion of *Neufchatel* from *France*, which the *French* Ambassador demands against an Invasion of *Franche Comté* from *Neufchatel*, as well as a Reciprocation of Conditions in all other Points; which if the *French* Ambassador refuses, the Deputies are to break up the Diet and come away: so that either Monsieur *de Puisieux* must agree to these Demands, which will be a fresh Mortification to him, or leave the Business unfinished, and consequently that Passage open to the Allies, of which they may make good use, during the Course of the Campaign. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, February 19. 1708.

THIS Canton had sent Orders to their Deputies at the Diet to make several Alterations in the Representation of the Cantons to Monsieur *de Puisieux* about the Neutrality, because it did not appear here, that it contain'd a sufficient Security for the Performance of the Neutrality on the part of

France, as it was then drawn up. But before those Orders came, *Mr. de Puisieux* left the Diet, and was return'd to *Solleurre*, and some of the Catholick Deputies are gone home: Those of them that remain'd, would not agree to the Alterations the Deputies of *Berne* were ordered to make in the Representation; but the Protestant Deputies all did, and entered their Reasons for the Change, so that we may conclude, they will continue firm to this Canton. However, the Catholick ones all went away on the 11th, and so the Diet broke up, without taking any Resolution upon this Business of *Neufchatel*; and fix'd another, to meet on the 11th of *March*, for the same purpose. Yet it is so much the Interest of the *French*, to see this Matter ended, and that Passage into *France* shut up before the Campaign begins, that we cannot think but the *French* Ambassador will dispose the Catholick Cantons, between this and the next Diet, to agree to the Neutrality, in the manner *Berne* proposes it; and the rather, because the Offer of Assistance, which I have made to this Canton in her Majesty's Name, by my last Memorial, ought to convince him that the Allies are watchful to make their Advantage of this Delay. Tho' the Diet be broke up, the *French* do not talk any more of invading *Neufchatel*; they are very quiet upon these Frontiers, and the Troops which *Mr. de Villars* had drawn together, with a design to surprize *Fribourg*, are now return'd to their Winter-Quarters upon its Discovery, so that I believe this Business will remain in the State it is, till the next Diet, unless *Mr. de Puisieux* makes new Steps in the mean time towards obtaining the Neutrality; which is not unlikely, because the advanc'd Season of the Year may make him think it necessary to hasten the Conclusion of it before the Campaign begins. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Feb. 24. 1708.

LAST Week I was a little out of order, so that I could not acknowledge the Honour of your Lordship's of the 16th of *January* O. S. with the Propositions for a Treaty of Commerce, the Substance of which they have had here some time, so that I do not doubt but what they intend to do, is already resolved on; tho' perhaps they will delay the letting me know it, as long as possible. I am considering of some Method to bring this Matter to a Certainty, and a speedy Conclusion: for I do foresee, that how long soever I stay here, I shall return without having obtained the least Matter. They pretend to a Disposition to come into Measures in relation to Commerce, and if I desire Conferences on that Subject, they will appoint the Procurator *Foscarini*; they think the other too much of my Opinion, so that I shall see him no more: this Gentleman is known to be in the *French* Interest, and has too much Power in the Senate. They think here, that a General Peace is not far off, and that it will end in a Partition. The Weakness of this State is not to be imagined. I know that it has been debated, whether in case the *Turks* should fall upon the *Morea*, they should abandon it, &c. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Turin, Feb. 25. 1708.

I Take it for granted, that Sir *P. Meadows* will have had the Honour to inform your Excellency of the Departure of Monsieur *de Mellerade* from *Vienna*, and the Success of his Negotiations at that Court; yet I am willing to inform your Excellency of the Arrival of this Minister here, and of the manner *H. R. H.* has been pleased to approve of what he did at *Vienna*. He has brought with him the Minutes of the Investitures of all the Cessions to be made *H. R. H.* including the private Investiture of the *Montferrat*, and he has had the Honour to read and explain to his Master all these Acts, which are entirely to *H. R. H.*'s Satisfaction. As to the Equivalent of the *Vigevenasco*, that is to be decided by Commissioners on both sides, who are to meet very soon. So that *H. R. H.* does seem now very well satisfied, so far as relates to the Execution of the Cessions mentioned in his Treaty; the next thing is the Payment of

of the Money he has advanced on the Emperor's Account; for which, your Excellency knows he does desire the *Novaresé*: but I find by Monsieur *Mellerade's* Discourses, that the Court of *Vienna* has so little mind to hearken to any Propositions of that nature, that if his Master would be advised by him, he would have him not touch that String as yet. But I do not find, that his R. H. is inclined to any Delay, but on the contrary, that he will write to Mr. *Palmes* himself, to desire him to forget nothing to bring it about: but more of this in its proper time. The Discourses I had with your Excellency here on this Subject, makes me believe, that Mr. *Palmes* will meet with no great Success in this Commission, and that his R. H. had better not be so pressing; if I have the Honour to see your Excellency this Summer, as I flatter my self I shall, we shall talk more freely of these Matters, than I dare write. We have no manner of News on our Frontiers. Our Fleet with the Succours arrived at *Barcelona* the 28th past, without having attempted any thing at *Sardinia*, and the Fleet sailed from *Barcelona* for *Lisbon*, the 8th Instant. The Earl of *Galloway*, the Marquis *das Minas*, with several other Officers, went on board the Fleet for *Lisbon*, so I do not know who is left to take care of our Affairs in *Spain*; the Queen was desirous the Earl of *Galloway* should have staid in *Catalonia*, and I did send him Letters to that purpose the other day, but they would come too late. I do not like the Aspect of our Affairs in *Spain*, we spend a great deal of Money, but things are so ill timed, that what we do is almost lost. The Foot we sent last, does not put them in a Condition to keep the Field, and the other Succours designed to be sent, cannot be there for the first Campaign, in which it is believed the Enemies will make their greatest Efforts; so your Excellency will judge what we are like to expect from thence. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 17. 1708.

I Have the honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 3d and 10th of *February* N. S. I think it is plain, there is no hopes left of persuading the *Venetians* to enter into right Measures with the Allies; so that there is nothing to be done, but to try their Inclinations in relation to the Treaty of Commerce, and that more to satisfy the Merchants who expect it, than from any Reason one has to expect it will be obtain'd. Since they are in this Disposition, your Lordship will let them understand, that since they will not make use of this Opportunity to do themselves good, as well as the Allies, they must expect no Assistance from us, upon a general Peace; but must expect to be left, to shift for themselves. As to what you mention about the Duke of *Mantua*, your Lordship is certainly in the right to put him off, for we can do our selves no good by meddling with him; but on the contrary, should give great offence to the Duke of *Savoy*, on whose account we are now soliciting at *Vienna*, that the *Ban* should be published against the other. I wish with all my heart, the Court of *Vienna* would come to reason, in relation to the sending Prince *Eugene* to *Spain*, but that matter seems to be quite over, and *Staremburg* will be the Man. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, February 26. 1708.

SINCE my last, this Canton has writ circular Letters to all the others, about the Alterations they think necessary to be made in the Project of Neutrality for *Neufchatel*; wherein they set forth the Reasons upon which they ground their Demand, and desire they would all instruct the Deputies they shall send to the next Diet, to concur with them in those Points. This Canton has likewise writ to the *French* Ambassador upon the same Subject, who yesterday sent them an Answer, wherein he tells them, he had sent to Court their Project, as it was deliver'd to him by the Deputies, before this Canton thought

fit to demand, that those Alterations might be made; that he would likewise inform his Master of these new Demands; but that he believ'd neither he, nor the Catholick Cantons would agree to them, especially to that Article, wherein they insist, that *Neufchatel* should be acknowledged to be part of *Suisseland*. In this Uncertainty, we cannot tell when this Affair will be ended. Some think the next Diet will find so many Difficulties in adjusting a Treaty, that they will content themselves with a publick Declaration from the *French* King, and the King of *Prussia*, wherein each shall promise to forbear all Acts of Hostility between *Franche Comté* and *Neufchatel*, during the present War, of which Declarations the Cantons shall be mutually Guarantees. Others think the *French* Court will leave Things in the State they are, till next Winter, without attacking *Neufchatel*, or giving any Assurances not to do it, in hopes this Canton growing weary of maintaining their 4000 Men in that Country will recall them, in the mean while, and will hardly be brought to send them thither a second time, only by way of Precaution: which if they do not, the *French* think they may take their Opportunity of seizing *Neufchatel* next Winter, when there shall be no *Berne* Troops to defend it, and either keep it or sequester it into the hands of the Cantons, as they shall think fit. Or if this Canton should not recall their Troops during the Campaign, the *French* think *Berne* will not attack them first; so they reckon they run no hazard on that side, and therefore need keep no Troops on the Frontiers to oppose them: and by this way of reasoning, they conclude they are Masters of their own time, to settle a Neutrality, or not, as the Posture of their Affairs may require. However, this is all Conjecture, for till the next Diet is over, we shall not know what are the Intentions of the *French*, nor consequently what further Measures may be proper to be taken on our side. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, March 4. 1708.

SINCE my last, this Canton has Answers from all the others to the circular Letters, which I inform'd your Lordship had been written to them from hence, about the Alterations that *Berne* desires may be made in the Project of Neutrality for *Neufchatel*; wherein most of them advise this Canton to agree to the Project, as it was deliver'd to Mr. *Puisieux*, without insisting any longer upon those Alterations: and the rather, because the *French* Ambassador has given to understand, that the King his Master has agreed to, and approv'd of the Project so drawn up; which News is likewise confirm'd by Letters from *Paris*, to several Persons here, and in other Parts of *Suisseland*. This Canton has indeed, since my last, written to the *French* Ambassador to let him know they were surpriz'd to hear, he had sent their Deputies Project to Court, since it was only communicated to him by way of Advice and Information, under the Correction and Approbation of their Sovereigns and Superiours; which having not been approv'd of by them, was consequently null and void: That the Council here thought the Alterations made in the Project, necessary and essential to the Peace and Security of *Neufchatel*, and therefore could not depart from them, but begg'd of him to employ his good Offices towards disposing the King his Master to agree to them. However, *Berne* having reason to judge by the Answers the other Cantons have since made to their Letters, that they are like to be left almost alone, and that they shall gain no more upon the other Cantons in the next Diet, than they did in the last; yesterday the great Council consider'd what further Measures were proper for them to take in this Business, and what Instructions they should give to their Deputies, that are to go to this second Diet: in order to which, two Points were propos'd;

1. That they should send to Count *Metternich*, to know his Sentiments about the Project, and what Terms of Neutrality he was willing to agree to: and,
2. That they should know of him, what the King of *Prussia* and his Allies intended to do, towards re-imbursing them the Charges they had already been at, in maintaining the 4000 Men in *Neufchatel*, and towards maintaining them

for

for the future, in case the Neutrality should not soon be settled. The first of these Points was past and agreed to, and their Deputies have Orders at *Neufchatel*, to confer with Count *Metternich* about it, but no Resolution was taken upon the second Point, which both Parties agreed to wave, tho' for different Reasons. Upon the whole, we must stay to see what Instructions will be given to their Deputies, before we can judge what End this Affair will have. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, March 7. 1708.

THE Diet which was appointed to meet on the 11th Instant, has been countermanded since my last, and put off to an indefinite time, upon the Refusal of some of the Catholick Cantons to send their Deputies to it. The Pretence of their Refusal, is taken from their general Meetings, which happen to be just at the same time, and will not give them leave to attend any other Affair. But the true Reason is thought to be a design to make this Canton weary of the Charge they are at, in maintaining their Troops in *Neufchatel*, and by that means either force them to comply with the Project of Neutrality, as it was agreed upon at *Baden*, and desist from the Alterations they have made in it, or else recall their Troops, and so leave that Country naked, and expos'd to the Invasions of the *French*, whenever they shall think the Conjunction favourable. This Resolution of those Catholick Cantons, it's suppos'd, is taken in concert with the *French* Ambassador. However, it certainly favours as well as we could wish our Design of keeping a Body of Troops in that Country all the Summer, provided the King of *Prussia* and the Allies make a right use of it, by bearing the Charges this Canton must be at upon that account. But if neither they nor he will ease this Canton of that Expence, it is almost certain that we shall fall into their Snare, and that this Canton will in a little time recall its Troops, and agree to the Project of *Baden*, without the necessary Alterations and Securities.

Berne, March 11. 1708.

Since the above written, *Berne* has thought fit to assemble a Diet of the Protestants only at *Arrau*, which is fix'd for the 21st Instant, and Count *Metternich* has propos'd to the *Berne* Deputies at *Neufchatel*, a Levy of two Regiments of 1000 Men each, to be taken into the King of *Prussia's* Pay and Service for the Defence of that Country; which Proposal having been by them communicated to the Council here, was yesterday considered of: whereupon they resolv'd to leave things in the State they are at present, and not recall any of their Troops till they saw the Result of the Diet at *Arrau*, and that in the mean time their Deputies at *Neufchatel* should confer and treat with Count *Metternich*, about the two Regiments demanded.

Your Excellency sees we are still uncertain when this Affair will be ended; however, we may take time to do it, since the *French* have given over all Thoughts of attacking the Country this Year. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, May 9. 1708.

I Have been at the College, and I have inclosed what I said to them, that your Lordship may judge of it. I was sensible that the treating the Matter in that manner, was the only way to make them reflect, and I am told that it has had that Effect so far, that it has procured an immediate Answer in general Terms, and more could not be expected: and tho' I did not think it proper to say any thing of the renewing the Conferences, they have thought it convenient, and I hear that the Procurator *Foscarini* will be appointed. I must own, that if I did not know them so well, I should expect something might be done. I shall now have an Opportunity of mentioning again, what I formerly propos'd, and nothing shall be wanting on my part, either as to the Alliance or the Commerce.

As to the King of *Prussia*, I suppose I shall at last know their

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Resolution

Resolution: for tho' I have made several Applications, your Lordship sees still their manner of answering. I will not send you the Memorial I presented at the same time, (it being only the Substance of what you sent me) till some Resolution is taken upon it. I do intend to follow it close, to come to some Certainty. I don't doubt but if our Affairs went well in *Spain*, they would do here whatever the Queen would desire; but I take it, that they are amusing the *French* Ambassador as well as me, and as the Success is there, so they will act. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, March 18. 1708.

SINCE my last, Count *Metternich* has given a Memorial to this Canton, which contains in Substance, that it is very reasonable *Berne* should be cas'd of the great Charges it has been, and still continues to be at for the Defence of *Neufchatel*; and therefore he proposes a Levy of a Body of Troops, (without fixing the number) to be taken into the King his Master's Service, leaving it to them, either to receive such Subsidies as shall be agreed upon, and pay the Troops themselves, or else to put them into his Majesty's Pay; he likewise offers it to their Consideration, whether they think fit to add any Troops of the other Protestant Cantons, to engage them the more heartily in the Cause, and asks their Opinion, what number of Men it may be necessary to keep on foot, and upon what Terms; concluding by representing to them the Necessity of having *Neufchatel* own'd to be part of the *Helvetick* Body, and desiring them to treat of these Matters at the Diet of *Arrau*, which meets on the 21st Instant. This Memorial having been read yesterday in the great Council, was refer'd to a select Committee, who are to prepare the Instructions of the Deputies to be sent to the Diet, which are not yet finish'd. The News of the Descent, which the *French* design to make in *Scotland*, with the pretended Prince of *Wales* at the head of it, takes up all our Thoughts at present; and having receiv'd a particular account of that Project from *Geneva*, by a good hand, I send your Excellency a Copy of it here inclosed, for your Satisfaction. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

Extract of a Letter of the Dutch Envoy at Vienna.

Translated out of French.

My Lord,

Vienna, March 24. 1708.

I Am very much obliged to your Excellency for the clearing up of the Affair relating to the Count *Comazzi*, by the Honour of your's of the 11th of February. As I count to set out from hence for *Holland* about Easter, according to the Permission which I have obtained from their H. M. my Masters, your Excellency will let me take my leave of you by these Lines, &c. Prince *Eugene* will set out for the *Hague* by the way of *Hanover*, by the Post, which we believe will produce a good Effect for the Publick. The Departure of the Princess of *Wolfenbuttel* is fixed for the 15th of next Month, and her Baggage will set out before her on the 6th, &c. I am, &c.

J. J. HAMEL BRUYNINX.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, March 25. 1708.

SINCE my last, the *Berne* Deputies are gone to the Diet of *Arrau*, with Instructions to endeavour to unite the Protestant Cantons in the Business of *Neufchatel*, and prevail with them to make a joint Representation to Mr. *Puisieux* about the Neutrality grounded upon the *Combourgeoisie* between *Berne* and *Neufchatel*, by virtue whereof the latter are included in the Alliance between *France* and *Suifferland*, whoever be their Prince. If they can agree upon such a Representation, and it take effect, there is an end of the Business: if not, 'tis hard to say, when it will end, or what will be the Issue of it; for it

it was with much difficulty, that we have prevail'd with this Canton to leave their Troops in *Neufchatel*, till the Diet of *Arrau* was over, in hopes the Deputies there might find out Expedients to bring it to a Conclusion. But if they break up without coming to any, or if the Representation they should make should not have its Effect with the *French* Court, it will be impossible to make this Canton leave their Troops in *Neufchatel* any longer, unless the King of *Prussia* will pay them, which he has not yet offer'd to do. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, May 30 1708.

I Write under all the concern imaginable, being sensible that the Affront they have done me here, is of the highest nature, as you will see by my Memorial; and unless it is repaired in the most publick manner, it will reflect extremely on the Honour of the Queen, and the whole Nation. This has been occasioned by the Roguery and Villany of one *B*— a Merchant, Son to Mr. *B*— in the City, who inveigled and persuaded two of my Boatmen to go on board a Ship, and load from it some Cloth, which is prohibited here. It is well known, that the Boat of an Ambassador is so sacred, that it is not to be visited or stop'd on any account whatsoever; tho' there was a Prisoner of State in it. This made *B*— conclude, that his Cloth was secure; tho' my Honour and Reputation must have suffered; for it could not but be known here, tho' this had not happened, which I find he did not value, and which I can never forgive him. As soon as I was acquainted with what had happened, I sent my Memorial of complaint to the College, and received the same day the Answer of the Senate, which I send your Lordship, and wherein they disown any Direction or Orders, as I could easily imagine they would, the Matter not being to be justified; but it is impossible to believe that these Persons dared to have done it without Orders from some Person of the State; and it is often their way here (to keep up their Credit with the People) to cause some Affront to publick Ministers, which is done openly, and then they disown it, and make Excuses at the Courts of their Masters, which they take care shall not be believed here. But the *French* King has never suffer'd such a Proceeding, and his Reparation has been always publick, and in the highest manner. I find by their Answer, that they have ordered the Men to be sent to Prison. I hope they will not let them escape, if they truly mean to give me a publick Reparation, which I intend to insist on, and that the Punishment of these Persons may be equal to the Offence; always reserving whatsoever further Satisfaction the Queen shall think fit to demand. I must observe to your Lordship, the Conjuncture of this Proceeding. It was done the day after, the *French* Ambassador had acquainted the College, that the P. Prince of *Wales* was at *Dunkirk*, in order to go to *Scotland*, where the whole Nation was in Arms, and had declared for him, &c. I was uneasy till my Letters from *England* told me that all was quiet there. I sent my Memorial before they arrived, and I am sure, that had they not brought that Advice, I should not have had such an Answer; tho' I must observe, that the Senate does not mention the Queen, but only the *British* Crown. It is not to be imagined with what Indignity several of the Noblemen here talk of the Queen, whose name is a Terror to all her Enemies, and whose Protection the greatest part of *Europe* desires; and should her Ambassador be treated in such a manner, without having the utmost Satisfaction? I do not doubt but the Queen will support me, and I do promise your Lordship, that I will proceed in such a manner (till I have her Majesty's Orders) that all the World shall justify me. I must beg that you will lay this whole Matter before her Majesty, and I hope, and do desire, that the *Venetian* Ambassador should have notice not to come into the Queen's Presence, till I have an intire Reparation, and that this may be done at *Venice*. The attacking the Boat of an Ambassador, is of the same nature, as in other Places his Coach and Person; only with this difference, that they cannot

cannot do it to a private Nobleman here, unless it is for some Matters of State. I need not acquaint your Lordship with what has been demanded by Princes, whenever such an Affront has been offered, and I hope the Queen will not expect less. I have some reason to believe that these Fellows had their Orders from the Inquisitor of the Customs, and if I could prove that, he ought to be the Person who should give the Satisfaction. If the Senate had justified the Fact, I should have been obliged to have gone immediately out of their State, and then waited for the Queen's Orders. Had they acquainted me, as they ought to have done, that my Boatmen brought in prohibited Goods; I should have been the first to have desired that they might be punished, which they knew was always my Intention, having often declared it; so that the Offence seems to have been given designedly. They write from *Rome*, that the Pope had received a Letter from the P. Prince of *Wales*, and he has ordered Prayers for the Success of his intended Expedition. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A MEMORIAL, presented on March 29, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

I Am in a Surprise, and astonished that I should find my self obliged to inform your Serenity of the highest Affront and Indignity offered to me by the Officers of this State, by which the Character of Ambassador, and the Law of Nations is offended in the most glaring and vilest manner. On *Monday* last, my *Gondola* with two of my Boatmen, dressed in my ordinary and well-known Livery, was attacked in coming from *Malamocco*, by the Officers of this most serene Republick, armed with Fire-Arms and Steel-Weapons. These Officers entered the Boat by main Force, and after having done what they thought fit, they suffered the *Gondola* to row away. It seems impossible to me, that such a Proceeding could be used by Order, under any sort of pretence, even if this State had a mind to break off all Correspondence with the Queen my Sovereign: nor can I imagine that any one can believe, that I could be capable of consenting, or tolerating any sort of Action to the Prejudice of this State; but on the least Notice or Request, this most serene Republick would have seen that I would have been the first in asking that the most severe Punishment might be inflicted on the Delinquents. I ask therefore, in the name of the Queen my Sovereign, and I expect a full, publick, and entire Satisfaction, and such a one as is proportionate to so heavy and so bold a Crime; else I shall be obliged to take such Measures as I would not willingly take, and which perhaps in their Consequence would not turn to the Advantage of this State. I desire to know the Resolution of the Senate with all imaginable expedition, in order to inform the Queen my Sovereign, of a Matter which concerns her in the highest degree.

MANCHESTER.

The Senate's Answer to the foregoing Memorial, brought to the Ambassador's House on the same Day.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Affection and Distinction for your Person in particular, are correspondent to the Degree of the perfect Esteem, with which we look on the representative Character of your Lordship with us, and always constant are the Sentiments of an unalterable Regard, and a sincere and perfect Friendship and Correspondence, which our Republick desires to continue to cultivate with the Crown of *Britain*. We have heard with a lively Grief to our Minds, by the Memorial presented to us this day in your Name, the Accident befallen two of your Boatmen in Livery, whilst they came with a *Gondola* from towards *Malamocco*; and as, by the full Knowledge we have of the Candour, and also of the wise Moderation of your Mind, and of your prudent Direction

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and Conduct, we cannot fall into any doubt of your having had any imaginable previous Knowledge of the Fact; the more because, as it is exprest in the same Memorial, you would never have suffered any Prejudice to the publick Interest; so you may be firmly persuaded of our intire Ignorance, and the full Disapprobation we shew of what has happened, the Senate being desirous that all the proper Regard should be had to what is suitable to your Ministry. We have therefore, as a certain Proof of our Sentiments, given Orders that the Officers of the *Peota* be immediately carried to Prison, there to remain, as a just Chastisement of their Trespas. Your Lordship may, by this publick Remonstrance, be the more sure of the Uprightness of our Intentions, and of our ready Compliance to what you desire, never to be separated from the Consideration which we shall always have for your beloved Person.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord

Berne, March 31. 1708.

BY an Expres arriv'd from the Diet of *Arrau*, we are inform'd that the Deputies have entered into a new Negotiation with the *French* Ambassador, about the Neutrality of *Neufchatel*, which is in so fair a way, that it will in all probability bring it about. They sent their Secretary to him with a Letter, to desire him to employ his good Offices with the King his Master, towards settling the Neutrality, and restoring the Commerce between *Neufchatel* and *Franche Comté*, which has been interrupted ever since the Investiture given to the King of *Prussia*, and furnish'd him with proper Documents, to prove that Country had been always deem'd part of *Suifferland*, and as such entitled to the same Peace and Neutrality, which the rest of it enjoys. Upon the Receipt of this Letter, Mr. *de Puisieux* resolv'd to send his Secretary and Interpreter to the Diet to treat with the Deputies, of which he gave them notice by a Letter, and the next day dispatch'd the said Secretary and Interpreter with a second Letter, containing his Answer to theirs; but referring the Diet more particularly to what they should say by word of mouth, as your Excellency will see by the Copies of both those Letters here inclos'd. Since their Arrival, a Project of Neutrality is agreed upon, which was brought hither yesterday from *Arrau*, by one of the *Berne* Deputies, and is now under Examination in the Great Council; which not being yet up, I cannot say the Project is approv'd: but there appear'd yesterday such a Disposition to do it, that it is not much doubted but it will be ratified. No body as yet can get a Copy of it; however, I know it contains in substance, that *Neufchatel* shall remain in Neutrality, till the General Peace, according to the Treaty of perpetual Alliance with *France*. The great Difficulty has been hitherto about owning in exprest Words, that Country to be part of *Suifferland*, which the *French* have constantly refus'd to do since the Investiture given to the King of *Prussia*: therefore to avoid that Dispute, they neither affirm nor deny it, but leave out that Question, as difficult to settle, and useless for the present, since it will be determin'd at the General Peace, as Mr. *de Puisieux* intimates in his Letter. If this Project be ratified to-day in the Great Council, the *Berne* Deputy that brought it, will immediately return with it to *Arrau*, and in that case we look upon this Business as ended.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, April 6. 1708.

SINCE my last Memorial, which I sent to your Lordship, I have presented another on the same Complaint: but I understand now that I shall hear no more of them, which shews plainly that this Affront was not a meer Accident, but done by order; which though they could not pretend to justify, yet they thought that their Compliment would have satisfied me: but then I should have betrayed the Honour of her Majesty, and deserved her Resentment. They have now sent Orders to their Minister to represent a fair Story, and for Words

they will not be wanting : but he is to prevent any publick Satisfaction, and some of them hope he has Credit enough with the Ministers to get me disown'd, whilst others are of opinion, and think that this Republick had better done at first, what they will be obliged to do at last. I cannot tell what Monsieur *Cornaro* will say : but your Lordship will have the whole State of this Affair before you. I imagine he may tell you, that this is not the first time my Boat had brought prohibited Goods, and upon Inquiry, I find *B——n* had made use of it twice before. He may also say, that this last time, it was not my Boat, but *B——n's*, which I hear is true : but all the *Gondola's*, that are ordinarily made use of are alike, and what makes it the Boat of an Ambassador is the Men and the Livery. Besides they told them, that it was my Boat upon their first coming, and then they went off, but returned. The manner in which I have lived here, and the Expence I have made, might have convinced them, that I was above all those little mean Actions ; and I have not made the least use of any of the Privileges, Ambassadors have undoubtedly here, which the *French* Ambassador maintains to the utmost point, having above 500 Persons in his List, and under his Protection, his Boats bringing in what they please, and no Officer of the Republick dares come into his Quarters, for fear of being shot ; which would certainly be done, and the *French* King would support him in it, and I hear he has Instructions for so doing. They have had here some Intention of remedying that Matter, but dare not put it in execution. So I suppose they were to try how I would resent it, and if it had passed, they had gained their Point. I could not but demand the Cloth, for the Reasons you will see in the Memorial : besides, as it is prohibited, it must have been burned publicly, and all *Venice* would have seen it done, and said it was that which was taken out of the *British* Ambassador's Boat, which was what I ought not to suffer. As to the Punishment of those Fellows, by putting them in the Pillory, there is nothing in it but what is usual, whenever the Punishment is made publick, and the sending them to the Galley before the Place is of the same nature ; and if they had done it, I am sure they would not have remained there long. For now they are in Prison, the Inquisitor, who has been the Occasion of all this, has sent Orders to the Goaler to treat them very well, and I hear they have had Money sent them. I do understand that all in the Senate, who have had the Character of Ambassador in any place, were for granting what I desire, except *Erizzo*, who was in *England*, and he was violently against it ; as were those who know nothing of the World, and take themselves to be sovereign Princes. This State recalled their Ambassador lately from *Rome*, upon a Punctilio, without taking leave of the Pope. I send your Lordship the *French* King's Letter to the Pope, on the occasion of the intended Invasion, where you will see that they think this Matter very sure, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A MEMORIAL, presented on the 2d of April, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

I Received with the highest pleasure, the prompt and welcome Answer of the Senate, to my Memorial of the 29th past, which was accompanied with so sincere a desire to continue that most perfect Friendship, which has always flourished betwixt the Queen my Sovereign, and this M. S. Republick, as also with such obliging Expressions towards my Person, together with the Resolution of sending immediately into Prison, the Officers who have offended me, that I cannot doubt but the Senate will grant me what I shall demand farther. If the Ambassadors of this M. S. Republick should meet with such an Accident, they would certainly resent it with great Disdain, and the Crime being so heavy, they would ask as just and reasonable what I shall desire ; and therefore I cannot doubt but the Senate will be for executing it with the greatest Promptitude : and thus shall this Accident, which at first View appeared unfortunate enough, and which I feared might produce fatal Consequences, end, as I hope, to the
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intire Satisfaction of the Queen my Sovereign, and to the Honour of the Justice of this M. S. State. As the Affront has been offered in publick, I find my self indispensably obliged to demand, that the Officers of the *Peota*, now in prison, be condemned to the Oar, and then put in the Pillory in the place of *St. Mark*, betwixt the two Pillars, in the usual manner, with an Inscription denoting their Crime, and their Punishment, and thence conducted into the Galley, called the *Fusta*, lying before the said place. And tho' I have been with some difficulty brought to do it, I cannot however dispense my self from asking back the Goods taken from my Boatmen, and that they be, in the same place, put again into the violated Boat. It is true, they were put there without any knowledge of mine; yet since they were there, my Livery ought to be as a Sanctuary for them, and the Reparation cannot be perfect without such a Restitution. A less Punishment, or a less Reparation cannot shew the Equity and the Candour of this M. S. Repnblick, and their Detestation of this infamous Trespass. I demand therefore, in the name of the Queen my Sovereign, that these Particulars be granted me, as a Satisfaction for what has passed, hoping that her Majesty will think them sufficient; and when they shall be granted me, I will not fail to represent the Case in such a manner, that it shall not diminish the good Intelligence, which hitherto has been cultivated betwixt the Queen my Sovereign, and this M. S. State, but that it shall make it more firm, and inviolable.

MANCHESTER.

The French King's Letter to the Pope.

Translated out of Italian.

Holy Father,

THE great Zeal, which I have always had to re-establish on the Throne of *England*, King *James Stuart III.* is well known to you; tho' there was not hitherto a time proper for it, as well by reason of the Conjunctions, as by the Unity of my Enemies, which did not give me leave to act in so righteous a Case, for our Holy Faith, the chief Object of all our Actions. We have now thought good to let him depart from this our Royal Seat, on the 7th of *March*, in order to embark himself on a Fleet, where every thing has been prepared for him, with sufficient Forces to establish him on the Throne; after he shall have been received on his Arrival, by the faithful People of *Scotland*, and proclaimed as their true and lawful King. I have thought it fit not to omit sending you this important News, that by your Ardour the Union of our Holy Mother the Church may increase in that Kingdom, and that God may prosper him whilst the time is favourable. It is now, Holy Father, your Business to accompany him by your Zeal with your holy Benediction, which I also ask for my self; and I remain, Holy Father, your most loving Son.

Versailles, March 9. 1708.

LOUIS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, April 8. 1708.

IN my last, I had the Honour to tell your Excellency, that another Project of Neutrality for *Neufchatel* had been drawn up, at the Diet of *Arrau*, which having been brought hither by one of the *Berne* Deputies, was then under Examination in the Great Council here; who having approv'd of it with some little Alteration, the Deputy carried it back to the Diet, where after those Alterations had been made in the Project, it was agreed to by the *French* Agents, who have promis'd to procure the *French* King's Ratification of it, within the space of 14 Days, reckoning from the 3d Instant. Thus this Business of *Neufchatel* is ended, unless the *French* Court should refuse to ratify the Project, of which there is no Likelihood after the Eagerness the *French* shew'd to make an end of it at this Diet. The Great Council here, resolv'd yesterday to recall 2000 Men of their Troops in *Neufchatel*, and leave the rest there, till the *French* King's Ratification of the Project arrives. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, April 13. 1708.

I Send inclosed Duplicates of what I acquainted your Lordship with in my last of the 6th Instant. I do not find that I shall hear any thing more of the Senate, till they see how the Queen takes this matter. Notwithstanding that all our Letters from *England* are full of the good Posture of our Affairs, yet they believe here, that the *French* are landed near *Berwick*, and that we shall have enough to do to preserve our selves. I hope they will soon see that we are not in such a Condition, and that her Majesty insists on a publick Satisfaction, and that if it is refused, I shall have Orders to come away. I do now know positively, that Signor *Ruzzini*, Inquisitor of the Customs, ordered the stopping of my Boat in the manner it was done, and that there was a good deal of Malice in the matter. The two Ambassadors, *Erizzo* and *Pisani*, who were in *England*, have not a little contributed to it, and by these means shewed their Resentments for the manner in which they were treated there. It is certain, that the Conjuncture they have taken here, to act as they have done, ought to be a Reason to resent it in the highest manner that is possible; and I do not doubt, if we do so, but they will do what we please, rather than break with the Queen. I shall make no further Step till I have Directions, which I hope you will have time to think of, notwithstanding our Affairs at home. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, April 15. 1708.

I Sent your Excellency in my last, an account of the several Declarations agreed upon at the Diet of *Arrau*, between the *French* Agents and the Protestant Deputies about the Affair of *Neufchatel*, and the Terms upon which they concluded. The *French* King's Ratification of them is expected in a few days, and this Canton as well as Count *Metternich* has approv'd of the Proceedings at the Diet; so that I look upon it as a Business ended. As soon as ever the *French* King's Ratification comes, this Canton will recall the Remainder of its Troops from *Neufchatel*, and Count *Metternich* will dismiss those he had rais'd in the Country; so that by this Convention the King of *Prussia* will remain in quiet Possession of that Principality till the general Peace, at which time he must take care to get it further secur'd to him by Treaty with *France*. Since my last, the Banderet *Willading* is chosen Avoyer, in the room of Avoyer *Sinner* deceas'd. He is very zealous for the Allies, and will certainly favour their Interest as much as he can, in all Matters wherein this Canton has any Influence. Yesterday I receiv'd the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 31st past, I hope you will represent so warmly to Court, the Pope's Behaviour upon this Expedition of the Pretender, that Sir *John Leak* will have Orders to demand Satisfaction at *Civita Vecchia*. If he did nothing but pray for him, we ought not to fear he would do him any good; but Advices from good hands say, he furnish'd him with 500,000 Crowns, which is a much more solid Assistance, and is acting in my opinion in a hostile manner against the Queen. However, I rejoice with your Excellency upon the Miscarriage of their Design, and tho' the News that has been spread all over *Europe*, of an entire Victory is not confirm'd, yet I hope the Squadron that cruises before *Dunkirk*, will pick up some more of them, if it cannot quite destroy them. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 6. 1708.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letters of the 23d and 30th of *March*, N. S. with the inclosed Memorial and Answer, relating to the Affront offer'd you, by some of their Officers; I have laid the whole Matter before the Queen,

Queen, who is very sensible how much it must reflect upon her Honour, if this Matter should not be resent'd in the highest manner, and her Majesty has therefore order'd me, to signify her Pleasure to their Ambassador here, that he should not come into her Presence, till the Senate has given you entire Satisfaction and Reparation in the most publick Manner. What that will be, must in great measure be left to your Lordship's Prudence, who are acquainted with the Customs of that place. If you could trace it to the Inquisitor of the Customs, he would be a proper Person for an Example. As I don't doubt they were encourag'd to this Insolence by the impudent Lyes the *French* Ambassador gave out of the Revolution that was like to be here upon this Invasion, so now that is so happily disappointed, and so much to the Shame and Confusion of the Enemy, I think it's our turn to talk as big, and I don't doubt but your Lordship will treat them accordingly. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, April 20. 1708.

I Hope still that the Affront I have received here, will be warmly resent'd by her Majesty. Whatever Monsieur *Cornaro* may have Orders to say, I can assure your Lordship that if it should not be resent'd, all *Italy* will be surpris'd, and it will be the greatest Dishonour to the Queen, and Discredit to the Nation, and no State will ever believe for the future, that we shall resent any thing. If he should say that this bringing of prohibited Goods by my Boatmen, was continually done, which for my part I am ignorant of, it does then shew the greater Malice, and that this was done to affront the Queen; otherwise they would have given me some notice, and then I had been to blame, had I not prevented it. I turned away my Boatmen immediately, but I do not see that the State takes any notice of them. And as to *B*— the Merchant, who has been the Cause of all this Matter; some of the most considerable of the Nobility are now continually with him, and he does not seem to have the least Apprehension, which makes me conclude there must be some reason for it; otherwise he must have feared a Resentment from them, besides what he might expect from me, and what any other Ambassador would have done in such a case, according to the manner in which they act here. I suppose your Lordship is sensible that I undertook this Embassy, out of perfect Obedience to her Majesty, and that I have had no other Aim or End, than, by doing my utmost for her Service, to obtain, at my return, her Majesty's favourable Opinion. I do persuade my self that the manner in which I have acted in this last Affair, will sufficiently shew it; and therefore I desire that Justice, that I may be acquainted with whatever the *Venetian* Ambassador has said, that nothing may be determin'd contrary to what I desire, till I have answer'd: and I do not doubt but to shew the Villany of the Intention of some of them, and the Falseness of the Proceeding of this State. I do hear that they intend to complain that the last Memorial is express'd in too high Terms. Either I had no reason to complain, and they ought not to have put their Officers in Prison; or else what has been done to me, is of that nature, that no Words can be high enough, especially when I spoke in the Queen's Name. This is only what I hear, what they intend to do: or what they have done, they have not thought fit to acquaint me with. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, April 22. 1708.

It is said, that Mr. *de Puisieux* has receiv'd the *French* King's Ratification of the Treaty of Neutrality for *Neufchatel*; if it be true, he will soon send it to *Zurich* the first Canton, who is to communicate it to the others concern'd in that Affair, according to the usual Custom in the like Cases. This Business is no sooner ended, than that of *Tockenbourg*, (which was thought to be adjust'd) is broke out again with greater violence than before, and may possibly endanger the Quiet of *Suifferland*, more than that of *Neufchatel*, because it

is a religious as well as civil Concern, and for that reason will doubtless be pursued with great Heat, especially in this Country, where the People of the two Religions are extremely animated one against another, upon that account. The Case in few words, is this: The County of *Tockenbourg* is subject to the Abbot of *St. Gal*, having been bought by one of his Predecessors of the last Lord of that Country and Name, who had no Heir; and before he sold it, gave large Privileges to his Subjects, as well for the Security of their Religion, as of their Liberty, which the Abbot in the Treaty of Sale promis'd for himself and his Successors to maintain inviolably. Notwithstanding which, all the Abbots ever since, and particularly the present, have endeavour'd to undermine both by all ways possible; so that the People of both Religions in that Country, finding Matters to grow worse every day, united for their common Defence, and last Year applied themselves to the Canton of *Zurich*, for Protection against their Abbot, to which Canton this of *Berne* join'd in the same Cause: whereupon 6000 Men were order'd by those two Cantons, to hold themselves ready to march, that in case the Deputies they were sending to the Abbot, could not obtain reasonable Terms of him, for the Security of the People of *Tockenbourg*, that little Army might march into the Country to force him to a Compliance. When the Deputies came, the Abbot finding that the People of both Religions in *Tockenbourg*, as well as the two Cantons, were united in the Cause, and resolv'd to maintain it by force, granted their Demands, and consented for the present to leave those People in the Enjoyment of their Religion and Liberty, and so that Difference was compos'd last Year. But the Abbot having since found means to persuade his Catholick Subjects, that it is purely an Affair of Religion, and that his only Design is to abolish Heresy in that Country, he has under that pretence detach'd the Catholicks from the Protestants, the former whereof now join with the Abbot, who refuses to suffer any longer the Exercise of the Protestant Religion in that Country: upon which occasion, the two Cantons of *Zurich* and *Berne* are again sending Deputies to the Abbot, and if they cannot prevail with him by fair means, to leave the Protestants there in the peaceable Enjoyment of their Religion and Liberties, are resolv'd to oblige him to it by force of Arms; which may probably produce a War in this Country, if the Catholick Cantons shall think fit to espouse the Abbot's Cause. The Deputies of this Canton set out from hence yesterday to confer with *Zurich*, where they are to agree upon the Measures that are proper to be taken in this Affair. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hanover, April 29. 1708.

HIS Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and the Count *de Rechteren* arrived here on Thursday-Night. My Lord Duke and Prince *Eugene* met at a Post-house, two *German* Miles from hence, and came together in the same Coach to my House; and having refreshed themselves, they went to Court, where they were lodged in the several Apartments prepared for them. The next Morning the Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and the Count of *Rechteren*, had a long Conference with the Elector, and in the Evening went to hear a Play. Last Night they honoured me with their Company, and supped at my House. The Elector's Baggage that was ordered to march on *Wednesday* last, was countermanded the day before, the Waggons were unloaded, and remain so till further Orders. However, the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene* have prevailed so far with H. E. H. that I hope the Baggage will be sent in a few days to *Franckfort*. They have performed in this Matter, that which I believe no body else could have done. Monsieur *Elcetz*, whom the Elector had sent to *Saxony*, to treat with King *Augustus's* Ministers about 3000 Horse, which were to be taken into the Service of the Empire, is come again, without having concluded that Treaty. The Prince and Princess Royal of *Prussia's* Journey to this Court is put off, that Princess being sick of the Measles. I am, &c.

E. HOWE.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 20. 1708.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 13th Instant, and must at the same time acknowledge your former one, with the inclosed Copy of your Memorial to the Senate, in which you demand the particular Reparation to be made you. I have laid them before the Queen, who does intirely approve of the Steps your Lordship has taken in this Affair, and does expect you should insist upon the Satisfaction demanded to be granted you forthwith. You will by this time have received my Letter, in which I acquainted you with the Queen's having forbid the *Venetian* Ambassador her Presence, till the Senate has given your Lordship full Satisfaction. He has since applied for a private Audience, but has been denied it, and your Lordship may depend upon this Matter being carried in the highest manner towards the Republick, as the Affront, and Juncture of Time, in which it was done, deserve. I suppose they will be brought more easily to reason, when they know how shamefully the *French* have been disappointed. If they do persist in denying the Satisfaction demanded, it will be absolutely proper for your Lordship to come away, which the Queen would have you then do: but if that should happen, you will let them know that the Queen will do herself Justice. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, May 4. 1708.

AS I take it that all Matters here are at an end, so I think it convenient to send your Lordship the Memorial I presented on the 5th of *March*, at the same time that I was in the College, in relation to a Treaty of Commerce. It was a Month before this Accident happened since I heard from them, and whatever Disposition Monsieur *Cornaro* may now possibly pretend, I know it was determin'd not to agree to any one of these Propositions, and they said, that *France* would, if they did agree, demand the same thing, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech made in the COLLEGE, on the 5th of March 1708. mentioned in some of the foregoing Letters.

Most Serene Prince,

I Could not but expect, after a due Consideration on what I had proposed to your Serenity, by order of the Queen my Sovereign, to have seen a real Disposition in the Senate, to come into those Measures, which, I will still continue to say, cannot but be for the true Interest of this M. S. State, and which I do not doubt will appear so at last, perhaps too late. I have so little reason to believe this M. S. Republick is of that opinion, that I shall forbear saying anything more of that nature. I think the Desire and Intention of the Queen my Sovereign, to have come into the strictest Alliance with this State, does fully appear. I now lay before your Serenity, those Propositions that are thought absolutely necessary for the recovering and supporting of the Trade between *Great-Britain* and this State, and I hope they will meet with the same Candour and good Reception here, that so some Method may be found out, for bringing it to a speedy and good Conclusion. I am sensible how much the Trade is decayed, even since I was here last, and that unless something is done to restore it into the right Channel, a few Years more will make it irrecoverable. I must again repeat what I acquainted your Serenity with, soon after my first Audience, in relation to the Recognition of the Title of the King of *Prussia*. I confess I did not think it could have met with the least Delay, especially when the Queen my Sovereign had interested herself in it. I must desire your Resolution and Answer to these Particulars, and I should be sorry if any Measures should be taken, that might lessen the good Understanding, which I shall endeavour, as far as it lies in my power, to preserve.

Copy

Copy of a MEMORIAL, presented by his Excellency, and read by a Secretary, in his Presence, after he had made the foregoing Speech.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

AS nothing can contribute so much to the Advantage of any State, as the Encouragement of Commerce, and as the Trade betwixt *Great-Britain* and this M. S. State is visibly declined, to the great prejudice of both; I am ordered by the Queen my Sovereign, to lay before your Serenity such Propositions as may in some measure heal those Evils, and be a Foundation for a Treaty of Commerce to be fixed hereafter. The Propositions are:

1. That all *British* Ships be for the future freed of the Tax, called the Convoy of the Gulph, being 120 Ducats for every Ship, be she great or small, they having never received any Protection, or Benefit, after this Imposition.

2. That no *British* Shipping be obliged to pay 10 Ducats for the Pilots of *Istria*, except when they stop there and desire a Pilot.

3. That the *British* Sailors, that desert their Ships, shall not be suffered to sue for their Pay; and that when any shall have taken refuge on board the Men of War of *Venice*, or other Ships, they shall be returned to their Vessels, and their respective Commanders, without any sort of Refusal.

4. That the Subjects of *Great Britain* residing in *Venice*, shall not hereafter be obliged to lend any Money to the Republick; and that what has been already lent, in the said manner, shall by them be deducted, with the Interest, out of the Duties they pay.

5. That the Authority of the *Giustizia Vecchia* be restrain'd, and they be hindered from imposing a Price on the *British* Fish, which is imported. And as the Payment of the several Duties on the Imports on all sorts of Fish, and the Duties paid on their Exports towards the *Terra Firma*, or elsewhere, are so great, that this is a Bar to the Consumption of them; it is therefore proposed, for the general Advantage of the Republick, as well as for that of *Great Britain*, that after the Duties on the Importation of Fish shall be paid, any part thereof may be exported; and that they shall hereafter not be obliged to pay any other Duties.

6. That all the Subjects of *Great Britain* shall have liberty to import into *Venice*, and to export from thence into other Dominions, all sorts of Manufactures, or Products of *Great Britain*, without paying any sort of Duty, as is practised at *Leghorn*, and other Free-Ports: on condition that such Goods be deposited in some convenient place, which shall be fixed on for that end, under the Direction of the Republick.

7. That the *British* fine Cloth may be allowed to be imported, and sold, paying a moderate Duty, that so it may not hurt the *Venetian* Fabricks. It is well known that a great Quantity is now imported, and sold, which shews the Necessity of allowing it; and in this manner the State will reap a Benefit from it.

8. That the *British* Ships may hereafter be permitted to load for any Port in the *Levant*, or elsewhere, tho' any other Ship, or Ships, of any Nation whatever, should load for that Port at the same time.

9. And, for the better Encouragement of the *British* Ships trading to *Venice*, that all such Ships shall have full liberty to load all sorts of Goods in the Gulph of *Venice*.

10. And, as the Uncertainty of the Value of the Money of *Venice*, is a very great Discouragement to Trade, the Merchants not knowing the true Price at which they sell their Goods, before they are actually paid for them; it is desired that the current Money be fixed to a certain Value, above which it shall not be paid, nor received.

11. And as the *Proveditori* of the Currans Islands, and the other Officers there, demand, above the Duties to be paid for the Currans, half a Crown for

every

every thousand Weight for the Currans exported; it is desired that an effective Remedy be applied to hinder this, the Factors in those Islands not daring to refuse the Payment of any Sum demanded by those Governors and Officers, tho' unjustly imposed. And as the small Duties of the Currans are payed according to the Value, which is not only very uncertain, but the Governors often oppress People by over-valuing them; it is proposed, to remedy this, and to prevent all other Abuses, that the Payments of the said Duties be fixed to the value of ten Crowns for every thousand Weight, and no more.

12. And it is further proposed, to prevent all Disputes about the obtaining of leave to load at the Currans Islands, that, according to the old Rule, all *British* Ships that arrive at *Venice*, tho' but two thirds laden, shall have their *Franchise*, of which the Proprietors may serve themselves, when, and as their Occasions shall require it, and that the *Franchise* shall be granted, in like manner to all *British* Ships so laden with Goods of the *Levant*.

MANCHESTER.

The Senate's Answer to the foregoing Memorial, brought to his Excellency's House, by a Secretary, on the 9th of March 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Appearance of your Lordship in our College is always pleasing to us, and the Sentiments which you confirm to us, in the name of her Majesty the Queen, and the favourable Disposition of her Mind towards the Interests and Concerns of our Republick, are always regarded with a due Acknowledgment. Her Majesty may assure herself, that we shall at all times study to give uninterrupted Proofs of our constant, and sincere Friendship, and Correspondence; as we have done on all Occasions, during these great Conjunctions, in consequence of the affectionate and particular Regard, which we profess to have for the *British* Crown. We have received the Propositions produced by you in the Memorial of the 5th Instant, relating to the Affairs of Commerce, and as we keep in our Minds the greatest Inclination for what concerns the Nation so much by us beloved; therefore, as the Affair in agitation requires a particular Examination, we send to the Magistrate, who is appointed for this, the proper Commissions to study the proposed Points, and to return diligently to the Publick, the most particular Informations, that so we may then resolve on what shall be found necessary and convenient to the common Concerns. And whilst it is likewise known that a verbal Discussion about what concerns the Matter itself of a mutual and reciprocal Commerce is equally necessary, we are making the Dispositions about deputing one of our Nobles, who will be charged with seeing you, after the previous Concerts with your Lordship, about the manner which shall be thought proper in a Negotiation which the Senate has at heart, not only out of regard to our own Subjects, but also to procure all possible Advantages to the Nation. As to what relates particularly to the Elector of *Brandenbourg*, we shall not fail to make the proper Reflections, in order to let you know the Intention of the Senate. For the rest, you may be certain of our particular Consideration for your worthy Person.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 23. 1708. O. S.

I Have nothing to trouble your Lordship with this Post, but to send you the inclosed Copy of a Memorial the *Venetian* Ambassador has given in, by order of the Senate, in which you will see their Representations of this Fact. I send you also inclosed the Answer, which I have sent to his Memorial, by the Queen's Order; in which your Lordship will see that her Majesty does entirely approve of the Steps you have taken, is determin'd to insist upon the Satisfaction you have demanded, and if not granted, she will find a way of doing herself

herself Justice, which your Lordship will let them understand, in the properest and strongest manner. I don't doubt but you will find them talk in another Stile, now the *French* are baffled in their Attempt upon *Scotland*. I am, &c.
SUNDERLAND.

A Memorial presented by the Venetian Ambassador at London, on the 18th of April, 1708. O. S.

Translated out of French.

Madam,

THE underwritten Ambassador of the most Serene Republick of *Venice*, presents himself before your Majesty, by order of his Senate, to inform you of what has passed at *Venice*, in regard to my Lord *Manchester* your Ambassador, and of what the Senate has done in consideration of the Esteem and Respect which it has for your Majesty. On the 26th of *March* last past, was found, in a Canal leading to *Venice*, a *Gondola* rowed by two *Gondoliers*, with the Livery of my Lord *Manchester*, laden with *English* Cloth, taken out of a Vessel coming from this Country, and she was visited by the Officers appointed to search all Boats in general, without any Distinction of Characters or Persons, as that is practised towards all, according to the Laws of the Republick, and in the same manner as is done here to Ambassadors, and every body; and this has happened to my self, since I was here, on several Occasions. I have never complained of the Laws of *England*, and your Ambassador ought in the same manner to mind the Laws of the Republick, as all the other Ministers always do. Your Majesty knows that your Ambassador cannot pretend that two *Gondoliers*, or other Domesticks, shall, under pretence of a Livery, commit Frauds of this nature, that not being permitted by any Prince, no more than by Reason. But your Ambassador has presented a Memorial to the Senate, in Terms so improper for the Republick, that they did believe, and do believe still, that they have shewn great Signs of their Consideration, and their Esteem for your Majesty, by their receiving it as they have done. He asks there a publick and exemplary Reparation, and such a one as may satisfy the Dignity of your Majesty: but you see very well by the Case, according to the Representation which I have the Honour to make you, that he had no reason at all to complain, and the Senate was nevertheless willing to shew the Respect it had for your Majesty, in the Livery of your Ambassador, in a very particular manner, to please him. It was first done by Expressions the most honourable and distinguishing in regard to him, and they have in the second place declared, that it had happened without Order, and even the Knowledge of the Senate: lastly, by an Act of full and publick Satisfaction, they have caused all the Officers to be imprisoned without delay, and ordered that they shall remain there, for a Punishment of their Want of Respect for the Livery of the Ambassador of your Majesty. The Senate has given an Answer to the first Memorial of my Lord *Manchester*, in this ample, publick manner, full of an entire Satisfaction; and when they expected that for this he should own their Esteem and Distinction for your Majesty, and that he would declare himself entirely satisfied and contented, and even ask that those Officers, who are still in Prison, might be set at liberty; he presents a second Memorial on the 2d of *April*, with such outrageous Pretensions, that the Senate was surprized at it, and has thought fit to appoint me to answer it, by ordering me to represent the whole to your Majesty; hoping that your Justice will weigh the Irregularity of the Demands of your Ambassador, and will think that the Imprisonment of eleven Officers is the most authentick Mark of Consideration, that could be shewn him. Besides, as I have represented to your Majesty, they have gone beyond all other Reflections, and they have not took that notice, which some extravagant Expressions of my Lord *Manchester* deserved; the Senate has condescended to imprison all these Men, only out of the Regard and Esteem they profess for your Majesty, and your Ambassador who represents you; and this as a Mark of the

Affection

Affection they have for him. The Senate is therefore fully convinced that your Majesty will disapprove, that they have dared to offend against the Laws of the Republick, under the Pretext of the Livery of your Ambassador. The Senate is also confident that the Justice of your Majesty will be fully persuaded, by the Reasons I have the Honour to give you, of our Rights, and of the Distinctions shewn to your Ambassador out of regard to your Majesty. And I am also ordered to present myself before your Majesty, to pray you to order your Ambassador to insist no longer on this Fact, and to declare himself satisfied with what has been done by the Senate, and that he is to ask that the Prisoners be set at liberty. I shall add to this, that to hinder all Abuses to the prejudice of the Rights of the Customs of *Venice*, there have been Laws made there, which permit all Ambassadors to bring in certain Provisions for the use of their Tables, but to do it by a Certificate signed with their Name, and sealed with their Seal; with this Restriction, that all that is over and above, is by the same Law declared a Fraud, and consequently liable to be taken away. Your Majesty's Ambassador has informed himself as soon as he came to *Venice* of this Regulation, as may be seen by several Certificates under his hand, which are still in being. My Lord *Manchester* knows very well, that the Senate, under pretence of clothing his Retinue, has permitted him to take out of a Ship, eight Pieces of Cloth, and that by the Laws he could by no means be allowed to do it; but they passed that over, to demonstrate by this Facility the Consideration they had for the Ambassador of your Majesty. Your Majesty may know the Moderation I have always used, and that I have never permitted any thing that was against the Laws, and the Rights of the Customs; and it is also very just, that your Ambassador should do the same at *Venice*. I have therefore thought it my Duty to represent the whole distinctly to your Majesty, hoping from your Justice, that knowing the Truth of the Fact, you will honour me with a favourable Answer, and that I may be able to signify to the Senate, the Goodness with which your Majesty has received my Exposition, and that I may procure my self the Consolation of having contributed to the Service of my Republick, and their keeping always up the best Intelligence, Friendship, and Respect towards your Majesty; as in my own Particular, I acknowledge my self overladen with many Kindnesses and Favours, which your Majesty has been pleased to shew me, during all the time I have had the Honour of being here, and even with such generous Sentiments as your Secretary of State has communicated to me from you on this Occasion. I have always had all the Attention to deserve it by my Conduct, and I shall always mind to cultivate, or keep up hereafter, a perfect Correspondence betwixt your Majesty and the M. S. Republick, as I have a Pleasure and Glory in having this Employment about your Majesty, which I shall reckon the most agreeable, and the most glorious part of my Life.

J. CORNARO.

Answer to the foregoing Memorial.

Translated out of French.

S I R,

Whitehall, April 23. 1708. O.S.

I Have presented your Excellency's Memorial to the Queen, upon which her Majesty has been pleased to order me to let you know, that it does not appear to her, by any thing that is alledged in the said Memorial, that her Ambassador has made any false Step in all this Affair. As to what relates to contraband Goods, they know very well at *Venice*, that my Lord *Manchester* has always been far from suffering, that any thing of this nature should be done under his Protection, as would have appeared on this Occasion, if he had known what was a doing, or if they would but have addressed themselves to him. As to the Memorials which he has presented to the Senate, her Majesty does not find any Expression in them, that is not agreeable to the Dignity of his Character, nor proper to come from the Mouth of a Minister of her Majesty, on so extraordinary an Occasion. In short, Sir, her Majesty orders me to let you know, and desires you would inform the Senate of it, that she expects that the publick Reparation demanded by her Ambassador, be given without any farther Delay,

Delay, and that in case of Refusal, her Majesty will know how to do herself Justice in another manner. I do not repeat to you here, the Assurances, which I have already given you several times of the Esteem the Queen has for your Person, since her Majesty does not doubt, but you are fully persuaded of it by the manner in which you have been treated during this whole Affair. I am with great Sincerity and Esteem, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, May 10. 1708.

I Have received the Honour of your Lordship's of the 6th past, and I must now return you many Thanks for the Favour in laying that Matter so soon before her Majesty; which, as far as a thing of that nature is capable, will tend to the Honour of the Queen, and will shew the World how she expects her Ministers shall be treated. I do not doubt but they will be surpris'd here, tho' they might reasonably expect their Ambassador could not be otherwise treated. I can assure you, that there is nothing to be done here by fair means, and unless they see the Queen in earnest, as they will now see her, I can expect no good, but all the prejudice imaginable. I am going to the *Terra Firma* for a few Days, and at my return, I hope to have an Answer from your Lordship, to mine of the 16th past, N. S. I am willing to give them a little time to consider of it: besides, that it is their part to make the first Step. I did treat the Invasion in such a manner, that I have gained some Reputation, tho' they did not believe one word I said, till it was over; and the *French* Ambassador is now much out of countenance. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, May 13. 1708.

THE *French* Ambassador delaying still to exchange the Ratification of the Treaty of Neutrality for *Neufchatel*, this Canton has writ a Letter to desire him to appoint a time and place for that purpose, to which he has not returned any Answer: however, they rely so much upon the Assurances he has given them, that they have recall'd the Remainder of their Troops they left in *Neufchatel*, for the Defence of that Country, and Count *Metternich* has broke the Regiment he had rais'd for that Service. The Deputies of this Canton, that were sent to *Zurich*, about the Business of *Tockenbourg*, are return'd hither, but not having yet made their Report to the Council of their Negotiation, it is not yet particularly known what they have done in it; however, it is said in general, they have patch'd up a sort of Peace in that Country, tho' no body can tell how long it will last. I am, &c.

A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, May 18. 1708.

I Was in hopes to have found your Lordship's further Directions, on my return from *Vicenza*: but I find, by the Letters from *Holland*, that the *English* Letters were not received. I am so sensible of your Lordship's Favour, and the Justice her Majesty has done herself, in relation to the *Venetian* Ambassador, that I do not doubt but I shall get out of this Affair, with all the Honour imaginable. I hear that Monsieur *Cornaro* has acquainted the Senate with what has pass'd, as also that he waited on your Lordship after he received your Letter, and he has been particular in what, he said, and what you reply'd, the Substance of which I cannot well learn, tho' I suppose it was not any way in his favour, and that my Lord Treasurer has made him a Visit, &c. I take all these things, (which are certainly right) as a Respect to his Person, and not his Character; for I do find here, that they take the Queen to be in earnest, and there is no other way of dealing with them. I have had this Day a Message from the Procurator *Foscarini*, to desire he may wait on me: but I find he now makes Difficulties to come to my House, nor does he say as yet, that he is

deputed

deputed by the Senate, tho' I believe he is. I suppose he will explain himself, and then we shall meet. This they should have done at first. Had they comply'd with what I desired by my second Memorial, my Intention was to have said that I was satisfied, when the Cloath was return'd to my Boat, but that it was none of mine, and that they might do what they would with it. This would have shew'd to the World, that what I did was not out of a regard to the Cloath, but on quite another Principle. But as that matter is now laid before her Majesty, I am under a difficulty as to what must be done when it is return'd, and I would be glad to have your Thoughts. I hope my Return home is not out of her Majesty's Thoughts. If I imagin'd my Stay could be of any service, I would be silent. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Savona, May 18. 1708.

I Am really out of countenance to have been prevented by your Excellency; to whom I am so much obliged already for the great Civilities I received at Venice. I had a great mind to have returned by the same way, to have paid my Respects to your Excellency; but was so press'd by my Orders to lose no time, that I could not follow my Inclination. What your Excellency is pleased to mention of the Project, has not been thought of for this Year; those who are to execute it, bid me assure the King, that it shall be attempted the next year. The State of the Situation of our domestick Affairs did not make it possible this last Winter to give all the Attention necessary to the business of Spain. Now that matter seems to be well fix'd there, and that we hope to have another good Parliament, I think vigorous Measures will be pursued. In the mean time, we have reason to hope for something very considerable in Flanders, where I left my Lord Duke of Marlborough resolved to push, and very confident of Success; and if I am not mistaken, he had resolved on such a Plan of the Campaign, as must force the Enemies to Action, or remain Spectators of the loss of several of their best Towns, which lead into France. If the last News we have be true, that the Princes of France go to the Army, I am the more encouraged to hope for an Action; and I am apt to believe, that before the fifteenth of June we shall have something from thence very considerable. As to the Country where I am going, the Enemies seem to have neglected the great Advantages they had, and not to be in a condition to attempt any thing considerable: so that, if our Fleet arrives speedily, and that we get from Italy the two thousand Horse, and the five thousand Imperialists, which have been destin'd there, I should hope we may act offensively. I have taken up at Turin and Genoa six and twenty thousand Pistoles, which I carry in two clean Frigots to supply our present Necessities, 'till such time as the Fleet comes; which I hope will be approved of in England, for at present whilst I am here, 'tis impossible to make use of and draw together the Forces we have there, for want of Money. Another favourable Symptom for the Affairs of Catalonia, and which makes me hope that Providence will take care of us, is the timely Death of Count Noyelles, so that Marechal Staremberg will have nothing in his way to hinder him from acting as he shall judge best, and he has given such Proofs of his Ability, that we may reasonably expect matters will be managed to the best advantage. I am, &c. JAMES STANHOPE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, March 20. 1708.

Mons. de Puisieux having appointed the Cantons of Zurich and Berne to send Deputies to him at Soleure, in order to exchange the Ratifications of the Treaty of Neutrality for Neufchatel between the French King and the Protestant Cantons; accordingly each Canton sent its Chancellor thither for that purpose four days ago, and exchanged the Ratifications in the form agreed upon, with which they are return'd home: so that Business is quite ended. I should be ashamed to trouble your Excellency any more about this Affair, but I was

willing to let you know that the finishing Stroke is given to it, and that you will hear no more of it a great while. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, May 25. 1708.

I Have received the honour of your Lordship's of the 20th and 23d of April, with a Copy of the *Venetian* Ambassador's Memorial, and the Answer to it by the Queen's Order. I cannot but wonder how such a Representation could be made by him, and I cannot but think he must have had Orders for so doing. As to what he lays down in relation to Ambassadors, the Facts are false; and the whole of it was to blind the Eyes of the Ministers in *England*, and to fling all the Aspersions imaginable on me: but it has met with so just an Answer from your Lordship, that I need not say any more on that Subject. Your Proceedings were sent by an Express to the Republick; upon which, they deputed the Procurator *Foscarini*, to treat with me on this Occasion, tho' he was unwilling, for some time, to express that he had those Orders; and I declared positively, I would not meet upon any other Point, 'till this Matter was over, and this Morning I had a Conference with him at St. *George's* Convent. He began with all the Expressions of the Honour and Respect the Senate had for her Majesty, and made me a great many Compliments, as is usual. But he soon found that the Memorial, presented by Monsieur *Cornaro*, made me, with Reason, doubt of these Assurances. I would have argued with him on every Paragraph, but he told me, he had no Orders to justify that Memorial; and assured me, that it was not sent from hence, and told me the manner in which it was brought about that Monsieur *Cornaro* had any Orders, and that the Intention of the Senate was to have made an end of this Matter with me; but some of the Friends of *Cornaro* over-ruled it, that so he might have the honour of doing it with the Queen. This may partly be true, but I can assure you that the *French* Fleet's being gone from *Dunkirk* was the chief Reason. I see by him, that the Senate would easily disown their Ambassador, and they are now sensible that they have not taken one right Step in all this Matter, but the first. I told him that the Senate knew very well what the Queen expected, so it depended on them whether they would continue the good Correspondence or no. That what I had demanded, as a Satisfaction, in the Queen's Name, I should now do by her positive Orders. That it was no more in my power, but I must act as I was directed, and that I hoped the Senate would seriously consider of this Matter. I argued with him on the Punishment, and he could say nothing but to the Point of the Pillory, and said, that if that was done, the Men would be stoned to death. This is nothing but a Fallacy, and I could not agree with him in the least: but if there was any Apprehension, they might put a Guard. I found by him that this first Meeting was to discourse in general, and to represent to the Senate what I insisted on. We are to meet again in a few days; then, I take it, it will be determin'd some way or other; and I shall act accordingly about leaving this Place, as your Lordship has directed me. I cannot tell but by the Methods of their Government they may keep me longer than otherwise they ought to do: but your Lordship may be assured that I will take care to support the Dignity of the Queen to the utmost degree. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord

Vienna, May 30. 1708.

I Did my self the honour some time since to write to your Excellency, and have discontinued troubling you farther, not doubting but I should soon have the honour of kissing your Hands at *Venice*, or thereabouts: but it is not easy to reckon for certain how long a Man shall stay at this Court, when he has any Matter to transact. This Court has, upon the Queen's Instances, fully satisfy'd the Elector Palatine; and his Minister here will, in ten Days, receive the Investiture.

vestiture. I wish I could say as much of the Duke of *Savoy's* Pretensions, tho' I doubt not but in as many Days the Ban may be published against the Duke of *Mantoua*, and the Investiture of the *Montferrat* given: the House of *Lorraine*, who has hitherto been the only Hindrance to it, becoming more tractable upon that Affair, the *French* Emisſaries, and your Friends the *Venetians*, have used also their utmost Efforts; but I hope they will be disappointed. Prince *Eugene* goes from hence on *Thursday*, to join his Army, which is forming near *Coblentz*; it will consist of 40000 Men, and good Troops; so that, if the Operation be sustained on that side, by *England* and *Holland*, I think we may hope for good Success. I won't fail to pay my Respects to your Excellency as I go for *Piemont*, which I hope will be in a Fortnight, being ever with the greatest Respect, &c.

FRA. PALMES.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, June 1. 1708.

I Am to deal with a State, which has a Notion that they can out-wit all Mankind; so that I cannot come to a Conclusion, notwithstanding all that your Lordship has declared to their Ambassador, &c. I had this Morning a Message from the Procurator *Foscarini*, to let me know that he was ready to meet me when I pleased; and, at the same time, that Person told me, that the Senate could not give me the Satisfaction I expected. I sent the Procurator word, that, the Case being so, there was no occasion for our Meeting; but that I desired he would let my Secretary wait on him, that I might have it, in that manner, from himself. He then pretended, that what he said to that Person, was not to acquaint me with it, but as his own Opinion: but he pressed to see me, so I have appointed to-morrow; and I hope I shall then put an end to this Matter, so as to be able to acquaint your Lordship that they have granted the Satisfaction, or that I am leaving them. It is some time since the Imperial Troops have marched into the *Ferrarese*; and it was thought that *Ferrara* would be besieged: but as yet nothing further is done than the taking possession of *Comacchio*, a Sea-port; upon which, the *Venetians* have put a Garrison into *Valona*, at the Mouth of the *Po*. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at Torbank, June 4. 1708.

I Have received the honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 18th past, and tho' I was at first very sorry to hear of an Accident, that must for some time make your Stay at *Venice* less agreeable to you, than was desired by your Friends, yet I hope the Steps the Queen has made, and the prudent Management you have observ'd on this occasion, will, at last turn to her Majesty's Honour, and your Satisfaction. As to what you desire for your Return home, I suppose, you have writ the same thing to Lord *Sunderland*, with whom I shall be glad to join in any thing you can desire; and if the Queen is pleased to gratify your Request, I shall think it a great Happiness if my Quarters happen to lie in your way. I am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, June 8. 1708.

Since my last, I have had two Conferences with the Procurator *Foscarini*, and I cannot bring him to a positive Answer, tho' I have now declared, that as there will be a *Pregadi* to-morrow, if the Satisfaction which the Queen demands is not granted, I shall obey the Orders I have received, and leave this State; so that I believe, that by my next, I shall be able to acquaint your Lordship that it is done, or that I am returning home, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, June 15. 1708.

Notwithstanding the several Conferences I have had with the Procurator *Foscarini*, I found it absolutely necessary to present the Memorial which I send your Lordship; and I did intend to have began my Journey homewards in a very few days: but this morning I received the inclosed Answer from the Senate, which put me under a necessity of staying till I know her Majesty's further Pleasure. I could not avoid taking notice of several matters in Mr. *Cornaro's* Memorial, as also of some Expressions for which they assure me he had no Orders, which he knows best. As to what relates to me, they have said all that is possible in their Answer, unless they had intirely disowned their Ambassador. For my part, I desired nothing of this nature, but only the Satisfaction which was due to her Majesty; having had the honour of her Approbation in every step I have made, as they know very well: and your Lordship's executing the Queen's Orders in that manner, and with so much Resolution, has put me in a condition of getting out of this Affair, much to the Queen's honour.

What remains of the Satisfaction to be made, is that of the Pillory, which they do not positively refuse. They represent to me, that these Persons, by their Office, cannot avoid disoblighing a great many; and if they are put in the Pillory, these will take that opportunity of revenging themselves; which may possibly be: but what weighs most with me is, that some evil-intentioned People may take this occasion of raising a disturbance in the City, they having no Guards here. I have just now seen Procurator *Foscarini*, and I have desired to know what Expedient they propose in lieu of the Pillory, that I may lay it before the Queen. I found he had no Orders; but I mentioned to him, in discourse, if these Men were brought from the Prison round the Place of *St. Mark*, that the chief of them had an Inscription, mentioning the Crime they had committed, I hoped the Queen might be satisfied. He will lay this matter before the Senate, and acquaint me with the Success; and then they will send away Monsieur *Cornaro's* Express, by whom I intend to acquaint your Lordship of what passes further. The Procurator did, in the name of the Senate, make pressing Instances to me, that I would assure her Majesty that they were intirely ignorant of any Intention of *France's* invading *Britain*; that they desire nothing so much as her Friendship, &c. I will have so much Charity as to believe what they now say; but the Turn they would have given to this Affair, is plain by Monsieur *Cornaro's* Memorial.

As they are to return the Cloath, I desire your Directions what I am to do with it. It would be very honourable, and the World would see that this Dispute was not on account of getting the Cloath (for no body has a Right to it) that I should send it to the four Hospitals here, if the Queen approves of it: or otherwise send it to *London*, for it must not be sold here. I must leave it to your Lordship to consider whether the *Venetian* Ambassador ought to have an Audience of the Queen, if he should desire it, 'till the Satisfaction is made: for one is sure of nothing here 'till it is done. I think it also necessary to acquaint your Lordship, that it may be reasonably expected, that after these Persons have lain some time in the Gallies, and upon proper Application, I should desire that they may be released. This I cannot do without the Queen's Orders. I hear, that the Differences with the Pope will soon be adjusted, by means of the Cardinal *Ottoboni*; who has sent a Letter from the Pope to this Senate. As to *Ferrara*, I do not see that the *Germans* intend to attack that Place, having lost their Opportunity; but they act in order to take their Winter-Quarters there; for the *Mantouan* is so destroyed, that they cannot subsist in it. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A

A MEMORIAL, presented on June 12, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

After the various Conferences I have had with the Procurator *Foscarini*, and not finding a Disposition in the Senate to grant me the Satisfaction which the Queen of *Great-Britain* my Sovereign has demanded, and which she expects, I can no longer defer the obeying the Orders of her Majesty to retire out of this State : and at the same time I judge it to be proper to set all this whole Proceeding in its true Light, that so the Indignity offered to the Crown of *Great-Britain* may be manifest to all the World, as also the little Esteem this Republick shews to have for it, when she protects such Offenders by not punishing of them ; tho' she declares that it was done without her Orders, or Knowledge, and even without the Order of any Magistrate whatever. I am astonished at it, and it is impossible not to imagine that this State had other Views, and Measures to take ; and truly the Conjunction in which it happened shews it. The Memorial which Mr. *Cornaro*, Ambassador of this State, has presented at *London* on the 18th of *April*, has received there so just an Answer in every Particular, that I would not take any notice of it, if it were not for some Positions asserted there, which no publick Minister can ever allow, and which no Prince will ever suffer : nor can any State make such a Law, without destroying what is superior to it, the Law of Nations, which is the Foundation of all Friendship and Correspondence. Besides this, the Privileges of publick Ministers are different, according as Custom and good Reasons have fixed and established them, which every Ambassador is obliged to maintain, till his Sovereign, whom he represents, thinks fit to give it up, as particularly in this State the *Franchise* of their Quarters, the Protection of those to whom he thinks fit to grant it ; besides several others, too many in number to be mentioned. These are hitherto maintain'd, and with Justice, by the Ambassadors of the Emperor, and of *France*, by order of their Sovereigns ; and I take this Opportunity of assuring your Serenity and this M. S. Republick, that I should have done the same thing, if I had met with any Dispute of this nature. But the Maxim which Mr. *Cornaro* advances is very extraordinary, that all Boats, whereby he means to say the *Gondola's* of Ambassadors, for that is the present Case, are visited, and then he goes on, and says without Distinction of Persons or Characters. This every one knows to be otherwise, and I wonder he did not say their Palaces, and Persons, because he could have said it with the same Justice. The Argument he makes use of to prove this is, that the Ambassadors give Passports under their hands, for what is for their own use, and that I have done the same thing. This is very true ; but he ought to have considered, that neither the Livery, nor the *Gondola's* here have any thing to do in this case : but those things come up in an ordinary Boat, and the Passports are given to prevent such Frauds as the Conductors of them might commit ; whilst it cannot be imagined that any Ambassador is capable of so vile an Action, as well in regard to his Sovereign, as his own Character. But if this was possible, every State has its natural Remedy, by first informing the Minister of it, and, if no Justice be done upon it, by representing it to his Prince. It is superfluous to repeat what I have already assured your Serenity of, that if this Method had been observed with me, there would have been no occasion of your Ambassador in *Great-Britain's* presenting such a sort of a Memorial as he has given in, tho' I may say that he had no good Reason for doing it now. As to the Insinuations he uses, as if I favoured, and would protect Frauds ; I give every body leave to judge what manner of acting here could give the least Suspicion that any such thing could so much as enter into my Thoughts. Besides, after the full Declaration of the Senate on my first Memorial, I should not have believed that what Mr. *Cornaro* has represented, could have been done by order of the Senate, if I had not seen it in the Memorial of the said Ambassador to my Sovereign. I

said besides, that I complain of the Laws of this M. S. State, which Mr. *Cornaro* has never done in regard to those of *England*, tho' the same thing has happened to him. I confess it is a new thing to me to hear that the Coach, with the Livery of the Ambassador of this State, has been arrested, visited, and what was in it taken out of it by Force: If this is so, and he has not complained of it, this M. S. Republick has reason to believe that he has been far from doing his Duty. As to what he says, that under pretext of clothing my Family, the Senate gave me leave to bring in some Pieces of Cloth; I am certain that I gave no such reason, but I had such as I could justify, and even then your Serenity has seen the Precaution I took in desiring it by a Memorial; and if the least Difficulty had been started about consenting to it, I should not have troubled your Serenity, nor my self any farther. His Complaint of the Expressions which I have made use of in my Memorial, and the manner in which they have been considered, shews, either that Mr. *Cornaro* does not know whom I have the Honour to represent, or that he knows little of the manner in which an Ambassador of that Sovereign ought to speak on so extraordinary an Occasion. I have represented this Matter the more fully, because I believe that this is the last time I shall have an Opportunity; and it cannot be expected, after such a Treatment, that this State shall ever see again an Ambassador of *Great-Britain*. I have positive Orders from the Queen my Sovereign, to inform your Serenity that her Majesty has received the Account of this Proceeding with very great Indignation, and that she has resented it accordingly, as your Serenity must have been informed from thence; that she expects the Satisfaction which I have demanded in her Name, in my Memorial of the 2d of *April*, and that she will do herself Justice in another manner if it be refused. Thus I return to *Great-Britain* to inform the Queen of your Resolution, and I doubt not but this State will very soon see that she has it not only in her power to do herself Justice, but that she is also determined to do it. All that I can say in regard to my self is, that I could have wished that the Senate had been inclined to take other Measures, and so prevent the fatal Consequences that will follow such a Proceeding. MANCHESTER.

The Senate's Answer to the foregoing Memorial, sent to his Excellency's House by a Secretary, on the 15th of June, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

NOT only the Message which we caused to be read to your Lordship as soon as we had the notice, but also the publick Demonstration already shewn, by sending all the Men of the *Peota* into Prison, where they are still detained, will be a sufficient Proof of the Displeasure felt by the Senate, at the Accident which happened to your Boat, and Livery, without our Precognition, or that of the Magistrates. But finding afterwards by your second Memorial produced to us, and at the Conferences held with our most beloved Nobleman the Cavalier and Procurator *Foscarini*, your further Desires; therefore has the Senate, passing over all other Regards, out of a warm Desire of seeing this Affair brought to an end, caused, by means of the said Cavalier and Procurator *Foscarini*, to be exhibited to your Lordship other Testimonies of Esteem, and of their abundant publick Condescension, with the declared Consent to the Restitution of the Cloths, in the manner desired by you, and the Chastisement of the Officers themselves with the Galley, all in order to a greater Proof of the particular Consideration, which our Republick has for her Majesty the Queen, and the Partiality of Affection with which they regard your Person. All that concerns this present Case being thus repaired in so extraordinary a manner, we persuade ourselves, that you will be disposed to suspend your Departure, as you are by us warmly solicited, and whilst you affirm that you have no Power of Arbitration, you will nevertheless, in Consideration of what has passed, and of our Esteem, and affectionate Regard for her Majesty, send to her, by means of your powerful Letters, both Reparations proposed,

proposed, and the Disposition which we have besides to find an Expedient which shall be concerted betwixt you and our most beloved Nobleman the Cavalier and Procurator *Foscarini*, to put a final End to the Accident. If you shall be disposed to second our Instances by proposing to her Majesty, the intended and proposed Reparations, you may make use of the Express which we are to send, with Orders to our Ambassador *Cornaro*, to join to your prudent Insinuations and Reflections, also his most efficacious Sollicitations with the Court, the more to facilitate the Intention. For the rest, you may be assured that we have so lively an Impression of the Candidness of your Conduct, and the Nobleness of your Mind, clearly shewn during the Course of the one and the other Embassy, that we cannot but look on them with an Esteem equal to the Fullness of Affection, with which we shall always regard the singular Endowments which adorn you.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, June 22. 1708.

I Am almost out of patience with this People; and I find they still hope to bring about their first Design, which they must never obtain. They now make a difficulty that these Fellows should be brought round the Place of *St. Mark*; or that the Chief of them should have a Paper fixed on him, shewing his Crime: but they would have them go over a Bridge into the Gally; and even that they would do so early, that the People should not see it. It is plain that their Objections against the Pillory were for nothing but to avoid a publick Punishment. I have seen the Procurator again, and I spoke very plain to him, and desired him to acquaint the Senate, that if they continued to act in this manner, I was sure that the Queen would insist on the first Satisfaction demanded. To-morrow the Senate is to meet, and I am promised to know their Resolution; and then the Express is to return to Monsieur *Cornaro*, &c. I have already proposed to your Lordship the leaving of Mr. *Cole* here, with the Character of a Resident, for a less one will be of no use; and then, whatever may happen, it will be the same thing as if I was here; and he is acquainted with all the Methods, which are absolutely necessary for a Minister to know, they being quite different from those of other States. I desire your Lordship will lay this before Her Majesty, &c. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, June 29. 1708.

I Suppose you will wonder that the Express is not yet gone from hence. There still remains a Difficulty about the wording of the Paper that is to be fixed to the Breast of the Men; but to-morrow's *Pregadi* will determine it, at least then the Express will set out, and it will be laid before Her Majesty: for I do not think I ought to consent to any Alteration in what the Queen has done me the honour to approve of, without her Orders, &c. The Pope has pressed this State for their Assistance, in case *Ferrara* be attack'd; but their Answer is, as usual, not to engage themselves further than by their good Offices. They write from *Rome*, that the Pope intends to take 5000 *Switzers* into his Service, which, as they pretend, the Catholick Cantons have agreed to, provided he will keep them four Years. He has also recalled all his Subjects that are in foreign Services. These Things make a great noise, but will end in nothing further, than that the *Germans* will live in the *Ferrarese* next Winter; and then the Matter will be adjusted with the Pope. Perhaps *Comacchio*, and its Dependances, may be yielded to the Duke of *Modena*; but I take it, that at present this is not the Intention of the Court of *Vienna*. An Officer, sent from thence to *Vienna*, has brought me a Letter from the Governour. I find they have there but 400 Foot; and the People, who are all armed, are 4000. They have fortified themselves in one Part of the Town; as also at *Torre di Magnavacca*, and *Torre Rossa*. It lies in the

Water,

Water, as *Venice* does, and there is only one Canal by which they can pass to it. The Revenue of the Pope, for the Fishery only, amounts to 36000 Crowns a-year. The Governor writes me word, that with a little Expence, it may be made a Port for Ships of 20 Guns. There are two Regiments of Horse in the *Ferrarese*, which is all the Force the *Germans* have there, &c. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Berne, July 1. 1708.

THE Business of *Tockenbourg* is at least pacify'd for the present, if not quite finish'd, at the Diet of *Arrau*: The Governor of that County having, at last, published Mandates for allowing the free Exercise of both Religions, and ordered severe Penalties to be inflicted on any who shall presume to give any disturbance to either Party on that account. It is very probable that the Catholick Cantons will grant the 3000 Men, which the Pope demands of them for his Defence; and that their Deputies will come instructed upon that Matter to the general Diet of the 13 Cantons, which is to meet at *Baden* on the 5th of the next Month. I am glad to hear, by Mr. *Cole's* last Letter, that your Excellency is like to accommodate the Difference with the Republick to your Satisfaction, that you may part with them in a friendly manner. I am, &c. A. STANYAN.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 25. 1708. O. S.

I Have the honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 15th instant N. S. with the inclosed Copies of your Memorial, and the Senate's Answer, which I have laid before the Queen, who does entirely approve of every Step your Lordship has taken in this whole Affair; and is very well pleased to see the Matter is so near a Conclusion, to her Honour and the Nation's; and I am sure the Part you have acted in it, will be very much for your Lordship's: and in order to bring it the sooner to a good Conclusion, since the Senate yield the two main Points, the Queen is very willing to admit of the Expedient you mention in your Letter, in the room of the Pillory, or if that is not agreed to, does empower your Lordship to agree with them upon any other which you shall think suitable, which is left entirely to your Prudence. As for the Cloath, the Queen thinks what you propose in sending it to the Hospitals is right. I saw the *Venetian* Ambassador, who seems very well pleased that this Dispute is so near at an end. I told him he must not expect to see the Queen till every thing was actually done on their part. When once every thing is done to your Satisfaction, the sooner you pardon the Persons upon Application to you, the better. I am, with great Truth and Respect, &c. SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, July 6. 1708.

I Have had a great deal of difficulty to bring them here to give the Satisfaction, as it will be laid before her Majesty: and the more, because Monf. *Cornaro* writes them word, that I have power to consent to whatever I please, which I do not take myself to have, nor ought I to agree to any alteration, as the case now stands, without her Majesty's special Directions. I have already acquainted your Lordship, that they do consent to restore the Cloath, in the manner I desired, to condemn the Men into the Gallies, and, in lieu of the Pillory, to bring them at the Hour of Justice from the Prison through the Place of *St. Mark* into the Gally; and that the chief of them is to have a Paper fixed to him, denoting their Crime and Punishment, &c. The Paper denoting the Crime passed the Senate with great difficulty, and as they would now word it (tho' I own the Fact is true) I cannot but represent against it; and I hope it may be altered by the Queen's insisting on it, otherwise I fear it will

will destroy the main Intent, which was to support the Right of Ambassadors. Besides, I take it that that which is most general, is best on such an occasion. I have been far from agreeing to any thing, so I hope Mons. *Cornaro* will not pretend that: but if he should, the Answer of the Senate shews the contrary. In my first Memorial I represented that these Men attack'd my Boat with Arms, which is true, this State has always declared without their Order; both which Particulars they would insert in the Paper. The Senate pretends that they have no other Intention than to justify themselves, but the World will judge otherwise, and I must leave it to your Lordship to consider whether it will not bear this Construction; that the words *without Orders of the Government* will imply that with Orders they might have done it; which is destroying what I assert, as you will see in the first Memorial, &c. The Objection against the word *Arms* is the same, for that is against their own Law, and they are not to use Arms unless there is first a Resistance made; so that it may be construed, for these reasons these Men are condemned, and for doing it in this manner, and not for having attack'd the Gondola of an Ambassador. The Inscription, as they would have it, runs thus:

Il Capo con tutti gli alteri della Peota sono condannati in Galera per haver violata con armi in mano la Gondola dell' Ambasciadore della Gran Bretagna senza l'ordine del Governo.

The Commander and all the other Officers of the *Peota* are condemned to the Galley, for their having violated, with Arms in hand, the Gondola of the Ambassador of *Great Britain*, without Orders of the Government.

I would have left out *con armi in mano*, [with Arms in hand] and *senza l'ordine del Governo*, [without Order from the Government;] and then it would be general, and might be understood as such. I believe Mons. *Cornaro* may propose *senza conoscenza del Governo*, [without knowledge of the Government.] I take this to be much the same thing, especially if the words *con armi in mano* [with Arms in hand] remain. If they insist on these words, the adding the following words would make it very plain, that is, *Essendo la Barca d'un Ambasciadore sacra in tutte le maniere*, [the Boat of an Ambassador being sacred in any manner:] but I believe they will chuse to leave the other Words out rather than agree to this; as it would certainly be fairest on both sides. These Objections I made to them, but I cannot prevail; so I acquaint you with them. I would represent their Reasons, as also my Doubts, that so the Queen may judge whether there is any weight in the Objections I make, which I cannot but think there is, and it ought not to be contented to. Whatever Orders your Lordship sends me I shall obey; but in this particular, if I am in the right, you must be positive with Monsieur *Cornaro*. otherwise I shall never prevail; for this whole matter goes against the grain, and had they not seen that I was going away, nothing would have been done, &c. I hope the Proposition of leaving Mr. *Cole*, as Resident here, may answer all the Services the Queen can have occasion for with this State; and that I may have the Honour of paying my Respects to your Lordship the next Winter; being &c.

MANCHESTER.

P. S. After I had finished my Dispatch, expecting every Moment the Gentleman of the Horse of Monsieur *Cornaro*, I received the further Message from the Senate, which I send to your Lordship. I find they are desirous that the Queen should approve of the Satisfaction, as it is now laid before her. I must own, that if those Words I mention, were left out, or the latter added, I do not see but it will be sufficient, tho' they pretend here they have no such meaning as it may be turned to; which I doubt very much. So it may be, that they reserve to do this further at the Queen's Desire.

The Duke of *Mantua* died yesterday at *Padoua* of a sudden. The Duke of *Lorraine* pretends to the personal Estate, as does the Duke of *Guaftalla*. The Duke of *Lorraine* had a Minister with the Deceased, and he has desired the Publick Authority, that nothing may be removed till the Matter is settled. The *Mantuan* goes to the Duke of *Guaftalla*, and the *Montferrat* to the Duke of *Lorraine*. In case the Ban of the Empire against the Duke of *Mantua*

is not published, as it was intended to be done last Week, there will arise many Difficulties: which will not please the Duke of *Savoy*. It is thought that he has made no Will. The Express not going till to-morrow, I send this by the Post. It is a Copy of what you will receive by him, lest any Accident should happen.

A MESSAGE from the College, sent on July 5, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

YOUR Lordship will have been able to comprehend, by the Message which we caused lately to be read to you, our affectionate Regard for her Majesty the Queen, the Esteem we have for her Representative, and the Consideration with which we look upon your worthy Person. All this will have been yet more made appear to you at the Conferences since had with our most beloved Nobleman the Cavalier and Procurator *Foscarini*, with an intent to find the best Expedient, which, besides the Satisfactions given, and those that are promised, may quite finish the known Affair. The Senate has, by what you have declared, understood, with satisfaction, your Disposition to accompany the Express which we are going to send to our Ambassador *Cornaro*, with your Letters to her Majesty the Queen, with a design to shew the Fulness of the Satisfaction already given, and the others that are offered, with the Expedient of the written Paper, with the first Expressions proposed by the Prudence of your Lordship, and agreed to by the Senate. But as there are since some Doubts arisen in your Mind about some part of them, we are confident that you may be contented, by reflecting that the words expressed are relative to the Truth of the Fact, and were therefore inserted by your Lordship in the two Memorials of the 29th of *March*, and the 2d of *April* last past; that the use to be made of the Expressions mentioned in the Inscription may be apply'd to what regards Justice, as well in relation to the Senate, as to her Majesty, whilst the Explication may in general remove from the Truth any Interpretation, and make it disadvantageous to both sides. We cannot therefore but be satisfied, that such Considerations and Reflections may not only persuade your Lordship, but also shew our nice Attention for her Majesty the Queen, and our warm Desire to demonstrate in the best manner our affectionate regard for her, as our Ambassador has Orders to explain it to the Court, in the same manner. We have further understood, by what our most beloved Noble Cavalier and Procurator *Foscarini* has explain'd to us, the Discourses had with him about the Affairs of Commerce; for the good of which, and the common advantage of the Subjects of both Nations, we must now confirm to you the Disposition which we formerly expressed, and our Readiness to come to the exactest Discussions, to show still more and more our favourable Inclination in regard to the *English* Nation, very much beloved and ever esteemed by us, and to bind always faster the Tyes of Friendship and Correspondence. In the mean while, we assure you of our cordial Affection, and the Esteem we have for your distinguishing Qualities.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Vienna, July 7. 1708.

SINCE the Elector *Palatine* received his Investiture of the upper *Palatinate*, his Minister at *Ratisbon* has taken possession of the Rank his Predecessors formerly enjoyed in the Electoral College, and which ever since the War of *Bohemia* has been possessed by the Elector of *Bavaria*. All the Obstacles to the ninth Electorate being at last removed, the Elector of *Hanover* will in a few days be introduced in the Electoral College, there being nothing wanting but the Emperor's Ratification. To engage the *Romish* Princes of the Empire to consent the more readily to the Introduction of this Protestant Elector, it has been agreed in the Diet, that the Emperor, as King of *Bohemia*, shall

shall for the future, have a Seat and Vote among the Electors, as his Predecessors enjoyed heretofore, of which his Imperial Majesty has already taken possession; and in consideration of this, the Kingdom of *Bohemia* is to contribute towards the Charges of the Empire, an equal Proportion with the rest of the Electors. It has likewise, on this Occasion, been resolved in the Diet, that, in case the two Branches of the *Palatine* Family, *viz.* the Electoral *Palatine* and *Bavaria*, come to be extinct, the other Electors of the *Roman* Communion shall have a supernumerary Vote, that they may be the better able to counterballance the Interest, which the Protestant Electors may chance to have in the College of Electors.

The whole Imperial Court is gone this Afternoon to *Cloyster-Neubourg*, where they are to continue three Days, the Marriage between the King of *Portugal* and the Arch-Duchess of *Austria*, being to be solemnized there next *Monday*. On the 11th Instant, the Arch-Duchess sets out on her Journey, and goes by the way of *Bohemia*, *Saxony*, and *Westphalia*, to *Holland*. She is not to call at the Court of *Dusseldorp*, because of the Ceremonial; the *Portugal* Ambassador pretending the right hand of the Elector. The Difference between the Ambassador and the Bishop of *Laubach*, who is appointed to conduct the Arch-Duchess, and goes with the Character of Ambassador to the Court of *Portugal*, is adjusted. The Bishop is to have the chief Care in conducting her, while she travels at the Emperor's Charges; and afterwards she is to be delivered over into the hands of the *Portuguese* Ambassador. Count *Tarini*, the Duke of *Savoy's* Envoy to this Court, received to-day, in his Master's Name, the Investiture of the Duchy of *Montferrat*. I am, &c.

P. MEADOWS.

To Mr. COLE.

S I R,

Camp at *Audenarde*, July 12. 1758.

AS soon as the Enemy had an account that our Army had pass'd the *Dender* at *Lessines*, they recall'd their Troops that were come to invest *Audenarde*, and march'd with their whole Army to *Gavre*, where they began to pass the *Schelde* yesterday morning, and continued passing till about four in the Afternoon; and as my Lord Duke was resolved to pursue them, in order to engage them to a Battle, Major General *Cadogan* was sent away very early with a strong Detachment to pass the same River through this Town, and to make Bridges for the whole Army, which followed with all possible Diligence, to prevent the Enemies passing the *Lys*, or their Retreat towards their Lines. Accordingly about three in the Afternoon the Detachment, with the head of our Army, began to attack the Enemy in their March, and in a little time Brigadier *Sabine*, at the head of his Brigade, beat seven of the Enemy's Battalions, of whom he kill'd a great number, and took most of the rest Prisoners. The Enemy then form'd their Line, and the Battle began about five, and lasted with great Firmness till near ten at night, it being chiefly the Foot that were engaged, the Enemy still retiring; so that besides a great Slaughter, we made great numbers of Prisoners. We cannot yet give the Particulars of this great Victory; but some thousands of Prisoners, and among them some General Officers, are already brought into Town. Forty Squadrons of Horse, with twenty Battalions of Foot are in pursuit of the rest of their Army, which is retiring towards *Gand*. My Lord Duke with the Prince of *Savoy*, and Mons. *D'Auverkerk* continued on horseback the whole Night, to animate our Troops, and to give the necessary Orders for the Pursuit. I am, &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

P. S. Since the writing of this, we have an account of about 6000 Prisoners brought into Town, besides near 500 Officers, of which several are of Note. I heartily congratulate with you on this great and glorious Victory, &c.

To

To the Earl of MANCHESTER, then at Bologna.

My Lord,

Venice, July 14. 1708.

I Have had no Letters out of the Army in *Brabant*, but I find by Mr. d' *Ayrolle's* Letter, that the Armies did lie as they did before. The *French* had formed a Design to surprize *Brussels*, but my Lord *Marlborough* prevented it, by sending a Brigade into that City. Mr. d' *Ayrolle* has desired the Passports for your Baggage, and he will send them. Mr. *Laws* will be made the Queen's Secretary at *Brussels*, Mr. *Craggs* in *Spain*, and Mr. *Chetwynd's* Brother Resident at *Genoua*. The Queen of *Spain* lay on *Saturday* last, being the 7th, at *Pavia*, on the 8th she dined *alla Cava*, where she was complimented by the Marquis *St. George*, high Steward to the Duke of *Savoy*, and she lay at *Voghera*. On the 9th she went to *Tortona*, *Saravalla*, *Novi*, and *Ottagio*, where she lay. She was to be on the 10th at *St. Pietro* in *Arena*, and to imbarck immediately. So that one may well suppose that she is failed before now. I am, &c.

C. COLE.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *Werrick*, July 15. 1708.

I Return your Lordship many Thanks for the Favour of your Letter of the 22d of last Month, and am glad to see your Lordship was like soon to have just Satisfaction from the Republick of *Venice*; you need not doubt then but the Queen will readily grant your Desire of returning home. We are in great Expectation of Sir *John Leake's* being sail'd for *Catalonia*, where the Succours from *Italy* will have been very much wanted, since we hear the Duke of *Orleans* persisted in the Siege of *Tortosa*, notwithstanding the Loss of his Provision-Ships taken by our Fleet. Your Lordship will have heard with Concern, the Enemies taking the City of *Gand*, by the Treachery of some of the Inhabitants; but the good News that will soon have follow'd, of our defeating on *Wednesday* last part of their Army near *Audenarde*, and obliging them to retire behind the Canal between *Gand* and *Bruges*, will have made some Amends. We took between 6 and 7000 Prisoners, besides about 700 Officers, of which several are of note, and a great number of Standards and Colours. Our Army lay on their Arms that Night, and on *Thursday* encamped on the Field of Battle, on *Friday* we rested, the Troops having need of some Ease after their great Fatigue; and about Midnight we detach'd 40 Squadrons, and 30 Battalions, towards the Enemy's Lines, between *Warneton* and *Tpres*: the whole Army follow'd by break of day, and encamp'd at *Helchin*, whence we pursued our March to-day to this Camp, close to the Lines, which we found our Detachment had forc'd, and taken 500 Prisoners, the only Guard the Enemy had left for their Security. We do not think that their Army is march'd from behind the Canal, which, with their possessing of *Gand* will be a great Obstruction to our bringing up our heavy Cannon and other Artillery; so that I fear we shall be oblig'd to retake that Place, before we can make any further Progress. I am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, July 20. 1708.

AFTER the Express was sent away to Monsieur *Cornaro*, and having nothing to do, I was willing my self to see what makes a great noise in these Parts, the Dispute between the Emperor and the Pope; and I do find it is in the manner I have already acquainted your Lordship with. I went by *Ferrara* to *Bologna*, and did meet several Parties of the *Germans* on the Road, all of 40 or 50 Horse. There are, by what I can learn, not above 1000: but one would imagine, by the Apprehension they cause, that they were a great Army. The Marquis *de Prié* has had a Meeting with the Cardinal Legate at *Ferrara*, where he offered, in the Name of the Emperor, to withdraw all the

Germans

Germans out of the Pope's State, in case there were Assurances given that the Garrison of *Comacchio* should not be disturbed till the Right of it was decided. The Pope will not hearken to such Proposals at present, and is a raising of Men, &c. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Genoa, July 20. 1708.

I Found at my return from *Vado*, your Excellency's Letter of the 7th Instant. The Fleet did set sail on the 15th Instant in the Morning, with so fair a Wind, that I hope it is very near the Coast of *Spain* by this time. The Queen did embark here, and was conducted by a Squadron of 8 or 10 Men of War to *Vado*, where all the Troops having been embarked a day or two before her Majesty's Arrival, she did only stay one Evening for a fair Wind, or rather till all her Coaches and Equipages were embarked. The Troops we have sent are not near so numerous as I did expect, the Foot not being 3500 Men, and the Horse not above 2000; but I hope they will serve to oblige the Enemies to quit *Tortosa*, if they can arrive in time. They are all very good Men, and what I have the Honour to mention to your Excellency is the just number, as they passed in review before me. I am persuaded your Excellency will be informed before this can reach you, of the Success Mr. *Palmes* has met with in his Commission at the Court of *Vienna*, and that he is on his way to *Piedmont*, with the Investiture of the *Montferrat* for the Duke of *Savoy*, who received this good News some Days since by an extraordinary Courier, and I hear he has already named his Commissary to take possession, and that he himself did immediately take the Field, &c. I do set out this Evening for *Piedmont*, and hope to be soon able to send you some good News, my Design being to go strait to the Camp. I am, &c. J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Ranelagh, with the Fleet bound to *Cagliari*, July 26. 1708.

THE 17th Instant we arrived with the Fleet and Troops at *Mattero*, where we landed the Queen of *Spain*, she being from thence to make her Entry into *Barcelona*. The next day our Transports got to *Barcelona*, where we landed the Horse and Foot in good Condition; we lost but 40 Horses in the Passage, and 19 that were in a *Genoese* Vessel, which lost company with the Fleet, and was taken by a Cruiser of the Enemy. The Troops have join'd the rest of the Army, which all People say is in a good Condition, and that there is a good Agreement with the Commanders of each Nation: but from our unfortunate Loss of *Tortosa*, and the Accidents of this Campaign, the Foot we brought does but just make up the number we have lost, and in that the Enemy is much superior: but in Horse we have the Advantage, both in Number and Goodness, &c. We are under this Difficulty, that the Land we have there, with the Island of *Majorca*, will not afford Grain enough to feed the Army and Country; for which reason we are now going with the Fleet, to try if we can reduce the Island of *Sardinia*, to the Obedience of King *Charles*. The Troops we have to do it with are our Seamen, 1200 Marines, and some unmounted *Spanish* Dragoons; and if half be true of what is represented to us, we shall succeed in the Reduction of that Kingdom. We have the *Conte Sefontes* with us, but he is not to meddle till the place has declared. We go directly for *Cagliari*, which is the Seat of the Vice-King, and the Capital of the Country. I am, &c. JOHN NORRIS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 23. 1708. O. S.

I Have the Honour of your Lordship's Letter by the *Venetian* Ambassador's Express, and have laid it before the Queen, who does entirely approve of every Step you have taken in this whole Affair; and is very sensible of your

Lordship's prudent Conduct, by which you have brought this Affair so near a Conclusion, so much to the Honour of the Queen and Nation. What remains to be finish'd in this Affair, she leaves wholly to your Lordship's Prudence, whether by omitting the Words you mention in the Inscription, or by adding those other Words, *Essendo la Barca d'un Ambasciadore sacra in tutte le maniere*, [the Boat of an Ambassador being sacred in any matter.] But her Majesty does insist upon one of these things being done, as you have propos'd, and I have acquainted their Ambassador here with the Queen's Resolution; so that I hope this matter will now be happily ended. I fancy this Victory in *Flanders* will make every thing easy to you in those Parts of the World. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

I send inclos'd your Letter of Revocation, which you will make use of when you think proper.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Cockpit, July 23. 1708. O. S.

I Make bold to congratulate your Lordship on the appearance of so honourable a Conclusion as your Lordship is putting to your Dispute with the Senate of *Venice*. I had the pleasure to-day of hearing your Lordship's Conduct in this Affair very much applauded by some of our first Peers. We had an unlucky Business about two days ago, that befel the *Moscovite* Ambassador, who was arrested going out of his House, and rudely treated by the Bailiffs. He was then upon his departure for his own Country, and the Sum under a Hundred Pound that stopped him; and what makes the business the worse, he has been punctual in his Payments, and had given order that this very Sum should be paid the day after. However, as he is very well convinced that the Government entirely disapproves such a Proceeding, there are no ill Consequences apprehended from it. Your Lordship knows that the Privileges of Ambassadors are under very little Regulations in *England*, and I believe that a Bill will be promoted in the next Parliament for setting them upon a certain foot; at least it is what we talk of in both Offices on this occasion. I am, &c.

J. ADDISON.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at Helobin, August 15. 1708.

I Have received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 27th of July, and return you my Thanks for your obliging Congratulations on our late Victory; which we are endeavouring to improve in such a manner, that all *Europe* may reap the benefit of it in an honourable and lasting Peace. I hope it will have an immediate influence in your parts, where the Spirits are chiefly govern'd by Success. Mr. *Cardonnel* tells me, you have a constant account of our Motions, for which I must still pray leave to refer you to him; and am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, August 24. 1708.

I Have the honour of your Lordship's of July 23. O. S. wherein I find that the *Venetian* Ambassador's Express was arrived. It is no small Satisfaction to me, that her Majesty does approve of my Proceedings in that Affair; and I hope now to have it soon ended. I have no less Satisfaction in receiving the Letter of Revocation, which I shall obey as soon as I can properly, for I am sensible there is nothing to be done here. I should have been glad to have known her Majesty's Intentions about Mr. *Cole*, thinking it would be right at present to leave him here, at least for some time. I hope the next Letters will bring me some Account of this Subject. To-morrow I intend to send to the College. Here is arrived an Envoy extraordinary from the Duke of *Lorrain*, who has had his publick Audience. He is a very formal Man, and has begun his Visits of Ceremony. He has been with the Imperial Ambassador, and this Day he

he goes to the *French*. He intends, I hear, the same to me: but he having first visited the *French* Ambassador, I cannot see him. I can't tell whether he thinks of that Matter, but I cannot do otherwise. Your Lordship sees what Difficulties we are under in Matters of Ceremony, which must be maintained and more minded here than in any other place. I am sorry for what has happen'd to the *Moscovite* Ambassador. It does and will make a great noise abroad. Major-General *Palmer* is this day set out for *Turin*. He staid here but one Day. I am, &c. MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *Amougies*, August 26. 1708.

I Have received the honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 3d instant, and do not much wonder that the *French* Minister should be instructed to use the same Artifice with you they have so long practised in other parts. I hope the Success of the Siege we have since undertaken, will, in a little time, further convince your Senate how much they were at first imposed upon. The Trenches were open'd before *Lisle* the 22d, and Mr. *Cardonnel* will inform you of the progress that has been made since. I am, &c. MARLBOROUGH.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

From on board the *Ramelaugh*, before *Cagliari*, August 18. 1708. O. S.

THIS being the first Opportunity of writing to *Italy*, since our Arrival before *Cagliari*, will plead my Pardon, that I did not sooner tell your Lordship that we anchored before the Town the 3d Instant in the Afternoon, and sent a Summons to the Vice-King, to render the Town and Kingdom of *Sardinia* to the Obedience of King *Charles*, with a Letter to the Burghers to assure them of their Effects and antient Privileges, in case they made their said Obedience. The Officer sent had leave to wait four Hours for an Answer, if required; at which time, being night, he returned, with Answer from the Vice-King, that it was so late that he could not that Night get all the Government together, but would do it in the Morning, and send their Answers. We judged it best to keep on the Fright and cause no Delay, and that Instant began bombarding, and hove that night 120 Shells into the Town; and landed our Men at the point of day, and as soon as it was light the Vice-King sent off a Flag of Truce, to desire to capitulate; after which the Mob took possession of the Gates, and delivered them up to us. Thus we have got a City much stronger than *Barcelona*, and that has 87 Brass Cannon mounted, and the whole Island, without the Loss of a Man. In our Capitulation we obliged them to furnish *Catalonia* immediately with 1400 Tuns of Corn, and to-morrow it will sail for *Catalonia*, it being embarked in our Transports.

Last Night we received Letters from the King of *Spain*, and Mr. *Stanhope*, and News that the King had appointed 1500 Soldiers under Mr. *Stanhope*, to go to reduce the Island of *Majorca*, and the Fortrefs of *Porto Mahone*. He desires our Assistance in the same; on which we this Morning agreed to go to that Service, and to-morrow we sail for that Island, and tho' the *French* have a Garrison there, yet if the Weather proves good, I believe I may say we shall carry it. This will suite us in visiting the Pope, as we intended, for helping the Pretender, till another Season. But after this Service our Winner-Ships will go to *Naples*, to convoy to *Catalonia* the Troops the King expects from thence, and the rest of our Ships will be obliged to go home to refit for next Year, &c. I am, &c. JOHN NORRIS.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Camp at *Mantoule*, Sept. 7. 1708.

THE day after the Surrender of *Fenestrelles*, which was the 31st past, the Marshal *de Villars* decamped from the *Colle de Puis*, where he had been Spectator of the Siege, and march'd in two Columns to *Sezane*, from whence

whence he has continued his march towards *Briançon*; leaving, as we are inform'd, some Troops on the top of Mount *Genevre*, with orders to retire as soon as our Troops should appear, he taking it for granted that we have not yet finished our Campaign. But as I had the honour to inform your Excellency in my last, I am persuaded it is so, and that we shall undertake nothing farther in these parts, and that H. R. H. will not be long before he returns to his Capital. We decamp'd from *Balbotte* the 4th instant. Mr. *Palmes* came to our Camp at *Balbotte* on the 2d instant, and had his Audience of H. R. H. but having no Equipage with him, he return'd to *Turin* the next day, and is not yet come back. I am, &c.

J. CHETWYND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Septemb. 7. 1708.

I Can now acquaint your Lordship, that yesterday the Men were brought thro' the Place of St. Mark to the Galley. The Chief of them had a Paper on his Breast and Back, with the Inscription, as it was agreed on. There were great Numbers of People. This day they delivered the Cloth to my Boat, in the place where they took it. I sent it immediately to the four Hospitals: so all is passed to our intire Satisfaction, and much to the Honour of the Queen; and I have the good Fortune to have the Approbation of all people here in this Affair. As soon as the Men have made their Submission, I intend to go to the College to get them released. One of the Men being lame of the Gout, he was carried in a Chair, which made it more remarkable. They were eleven in all. I have had a great deal of trouble, and am very glad it is over. I have heard nothing from the Envoy of *Lorrain*. I suppose he could not but judge that I could not receive him. I have sent in another Memorial about Trade, and other Matters depending; and have acquainted them, that her Majesty's Service does require that I should soon take my leave. I don't send it to your Lordship till I have their Answer; but I expect nothing besides fine Words. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, Sept. 14. 1708.

I Am making the proper Steps, in order to take my leave; but I have been oblig'd to make a Complaint, of what was the publick Discourse, that is, the changing of the Cloth, which was certainly done whilst it was in their own Custody. They do promise to have it strictly examined into. I send your Lordship the Memorial and their Answer, as also what I delivered the 3d Instant about Trade, to which they make some Reply, which is all I expect they will do. There has been some Secret, that the Men in the Gally have been so long without making any Application to me: but at last they have done it, and to-morrow I shall desire an Audience, in order to get them released. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A MEMORIAL, presented on the 25th of August, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

I Cannot but impart to your Serenity, with the highest Pleasure, that the Alteration of what was first proposed for the designed Reparation, is now approved by the Queen my Sovereign, and that her Majesty has a great Satisfaction in finding so ready a Disposition in this M. S. Republick, in doing her Justice in what so nearly regarded her Honour, and the Dignity of the Nation. The only Dispute that remains, and of which I find I had reason to doubt, and which I cannot but persuade my self that it will not meet with the least difficulty, whilst it is what her Majesty desires, is, That the Inscription on the Paper be made general, by leaving out the Words, *with Arms in hand*, and *without the Orders of the Government*. The more I consider this Matter, the more I persuade myself that it will appear reasonable, and for the purpose

of

of your Serenity, and this M. S. Republick : therefore I hope that the Fatality with which this Accident has been accompanied, and which might have produced unfortunate Consequences, against the Intention of both States, will last no longer; and for fear it should, I propose still this Expedient, to which my Instructions give me leave to consent, if it still be thought, that these Words are proper to be kept in, that this Addition be made; *The Boat of an Ambassador being sacred all manner of ways.* I shall be uneasy till I see this Affair happily finished: the occasion of which would never have been given, if I could have prevented it; and which, as I think, might have been immediately adjusted, if certain Measures had been taken in the beginning. I can say, with great Sincerity, that this was always my Wish, and Intention. I desire therefore that your Serenity would let me know the Resolution of this M. S. Republick; that so, when this Affair shall be quite finished, I may impart to your Serenity the further Instructions which I have received from the Queen my Sovereign.

MANCHESTER.

An Answer to the foregoing Memorial, brought to his Excellency's House, on the 30th of August 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

WE have perceived by the Letters of our Ambassador at *London*, and by the Memorial which your Lordship caused to be presented to us on the 25th Instant, that her Majesty the Queen has remarked by the agreed Demonstrations, in Reparation of what happened on the 26th of *March* last past, the Concurrence of the Senate, as a still greater Proof of the affectionate Regard for her Royal Person, of the Esteem we have for her Representative, of the Equity, and of the Uprightness of the publick Directions. Whilst you still shew your desire that the Words in the Paper expressing the Excess committed by the Officers with Arms in hand, and without publick Order, be erased; we have been persuaded to condescend, that those Words which have a regard to the Reality, and the Circumstances of the Fact, known by your Lordship to be contrary to the publick Intentions, shall be left out; so that here is an end of this Affair, and the reciprocal most sincere Correspondence remains still more established, renewing in the mean while the partial Disposition, and Affection for you her worthy Minister.

A MEMORIAL, presented on the 1st of September, 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

HAVING received, with the utmost Satisfaction, the Answer of the Senate to my last Memorial, by which the noted Affair comes to be finished, I am fully persuaded of the full Satisfaction of her Majesty my Sovereign, when she shall hear of the removal of the known Words: and thus will that ancient Friendship, which has ever flourished betwixt her Majesty and this M. S. Republick, remain better than ever established. I am always ready to order my *Gondola* for the place designed, by the Prudence of the Senate, for the Restitution of the Things that were taken out of it; and as soon as what is decreed shall be executed, in regard to the Prisoners, I shall follow the Orders I have from the Queen my Sovereign.

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, September 21. 1708.

I Have inclosed to your Lordship what I said at my Audience. I found the Doge had a power to grant it immediately, so that the Men were released that same day. As to the changing of the Cloth, they make a rigorous Search,

and if it has been done without the Knowledge of some of the great ones, it will be discovered, and Examples will be made. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

A Memorial presented on the 13th of September 1708.

Translated out of Italian.

Most Serene Prince,

I Am sorry that I find my self obliged to renew any thing relating to the last Matter, which gave your Serenity and this M. S. Republick so much Disturbance; tho' I shall always acknowledge that I have met with the most complete Justice from you, as likewise with all the imaginable Regard for the Queen my Sovereign. But that which I find my self constrained to inform your Serenity of, is, that, tho' I have sent the Cloth, as soon as it was restored, to the four Hospitals; yet there are some so malicious, as to say, and to desire it should be believed, that the Cloth has been changed by my Order, and, what I am astonished at, is, that some of your Nobles themselves have took this liberty: I shall only say that they do not know me, nor can I believe that my Honour can in the least suffer by what Men, that can harbour such a Thought, are capable of saying, or doing. I remember to have heard some time ago, that the Cloth was actually changed by the Officers that had it in their Custody, and I had then an Intention of taking notice of it: but now it concerns me more, and I consider it as a very great Crime, and which is of the utmost Consequence to this M. S. Republick, if your own Officers should be guilty of such an Action. The Cloth is still to be seen in the Hospitals, and by what is told me, I am of opinion that it is of such a Quality as never was, nor can be brought from *Great-Britain*; nay, that it is made in this Country, which, if it be so, will be easily known. I hope therefore, and I desire with the greatest Earnestness, that your Serenity will have the Goodness to command that the strictest Examination be made in this Affair; that so such an infamous thing may be discovered, and the Guilty be severely punished.

MANCHESTER.

The Answer to the foregoing Memorial, sent on the same Day late, after the Pregadi.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

THE Expressions in the Memorial, which your Lordship caused to be presented to us this Morning, were welcome to the Senate; by which you declare your self intirely satisfied, with what we have many days ago ordered to be done in regard to what was concerted, by which you have plainly seen the Esteem we have for what regards her Majesty the Queen, and our Consideration for her Representative. The Senate, which takes part in all that regards your worthy Person, and which can never take up any Sentiment contrary to the Nobleness of your Mind, and the Candidness and Punctuality of your Directions, known by so many Proofs, exactly answering the singular Endowments that adorn you, and which can never be overclouded, and suspected, does therefore declare it self very sensible at the Assertion divulged about the changing of the Cloths, which you have been lately pleased to send, in a generous manner to the Poor of these Hospitals. However, that we may be duly informed about the said changing, we have ordered the Magistrates whom it concerns, to make the most exact and diligent Search, to come afterwards, according as it may appear, to the most severe Chastisement, which the Quality of the Fault committed may deserve, &c.

The

The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech in the COLLEGE, made on the 17th of September 1708.

Most Serene Prince,

I Cannot enough express the Uneasiness I have been under at the Accident which has happened, and the more because it kept me from prosecuting those Affairs, which might strengthen the good Correspondence between the Queen my Sovereign, and this M. S. Republick: I own however, that the Satisfaction I have in seeing it brought to so just and happy a Conclusion, which will also be very acceptable to her Majesty, and be by her looked upon as a great Proof of your desire to continue the most sincere and strict Friendship, and which I can assure your Serenity will meet with the same Disposition on her part, makes me appear here to-day with all imaginable pleasure. As the Persons condemn'd to the Gallies by the Justice of this M. S. Republick have undergone a Punishment which may deter others for the future; so by the Application that has been made to me, I do persuade my self that what has fallen out was rather the Effect of Inadvertency, than of ill Intention: which makes me hope that, as the Equity of the Senate has been shewn in their Punishment, so their Mercy may appear in the pardoning and releasing of them. This is what I desire in the Queen my Sovereign's Name; assuring your Serenity, that, as to my self, I shall never neglect any Occasion of doing all that lies in my power for the Welfare, and Prosperity of this M. S. State. Nor can I omit this first Opportunity of declaring how much I think my self obliged to the Senate for the Assurances they have given me of a strict, and exact Examination of the changing of the Cloth, which I have an entire Reason to believe was changed, and by those that had it in their Custody; there being nothing in the World which I would not do to make this Discovery.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Sept. 14. 1708. O. S.

I Am newly returned from the Country, since which I have the honour of your Letters of the 24th and 31st of *August*, N. S. I heartily congratulate with your Lordship upon the happy Conclusion of this Affair, which has ended so much to your Honour, as well as to that of her Majesty and the Nation; and I don't doubt but it will create Respect among the Princes of *Italy*. I am, &c.

SUNDERLAND.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Venice, October 5. 1708.

I Now send your Lordship the Conclusion of all Matters here, and next Week I shall set out for *Holland*, by the way of *Hanover*, where I hope I shall find the Elector returned from the Army. I am glad to leave the place in this manner. The Inquisitor of the Customs Signior *Ruzzini* is turned out of the Senate, and made *Podesta*, or Governor of *Padua*, which is a very great Disgrace, after the Figure he has made in the Republick; and this shews plainly, that he did order my Boat to be attack'd. There are several other considerable Men left out of the Senate, and such as were the most hot against the Satisfaction I demanded. They seem to be rigorous in the Examination of the changing of the Cloth. In short, I have acted so, as to prevent the Effect of the Malice of some against me, and I leave this place much to my Honour. I have already acquainted your Lordship, that Mr. *Cole* must have a Credential Letter to present to the College, which I desire you will order to be dispatched. I hope he will act to your Lordship's Satisfaction, and I am sure it is his Intention. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

*The Earl of MANCHESTER'S Speech at his Audience of Leave,
on the 22d of September 1708.*

Most Serene Prince,

YOUR Serenity will see, by the Letter which I have the Honour to present from her Majesty, that I am commanded to renew the Assurance of her Friendship and Affection, towards your Serenity, and this Most Serene Republick. I could have wished this Embassy had produced stricter Ties of this good Correspondence, and do hope it is not without a Remedy; tho' I shall not be the happy Instrument, the Service of the Queen my Sovereign requiring my Return. I cannot enough express the deep Sense I have of all the Marks of Goodness and Esteem, which I have received from your Serenity, and this M. S. Republick, during my Residence here, and I shall make it my Study to deserve them in some measure. In obedience to her Majesty's Commands, I do now take my leave of your Serenity, and your most excellent Lordships, wishing all Prosperity and Happiness may ever attend this Most Serene State.

The Answer to the foregoing SPEECH.

Translated out of Italian.

My Lord Ambassador,

AS the sending of so worthy a Person as your Lordship by her *Britannick* Majesty, in the Quality of her Extraordinary Ambassador to us, gave us great Satisfaction, so we wished the more for your longer stay in the Exercise of the Function of her Representative. With the Commission you have from her Majesty to return to Court, you may be assured that we will keep impressed in our Hearts, the Memory of your distinguishing Conditions, which having also appeared during the time of your other Embassy, have justly gained our Consideration and Affection. We are fully persuaded that on your return to Court, you will be pleased to confirm to her Majesty, by your weighty Words, our affectionate Regard, and how careful we are to cultivate the most sincere and perfect Friendship, that so we may continue to enjoy the Effects of the favourable Disposition, which she has at all times shewn for our Affairs. Having not had time for the necessary Examinations and Reflections on the Particulars of your late Memorials, we will not fail to employ our Study upon them, to procure all possible Advantages to what regards the reciprocal Advantages. In the mean while, we wish your Lordship a happy Voyage, being assured of the grateful Sentiments with which your most beloved Person will be every where received.

To the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

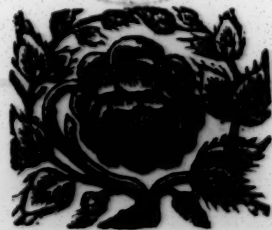
My Lord,

Venice, October 12. 1708.

Yesterday-Morning I notified my Character, to the Doge and the Republick, by a Memorial, and the Earl of *Manchester* set out this Morning for *Hanover*. I am come into my House, where I intend to put her Majesty's Arms over the Door. I am, &c.

CHRISTIAN COLE.

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